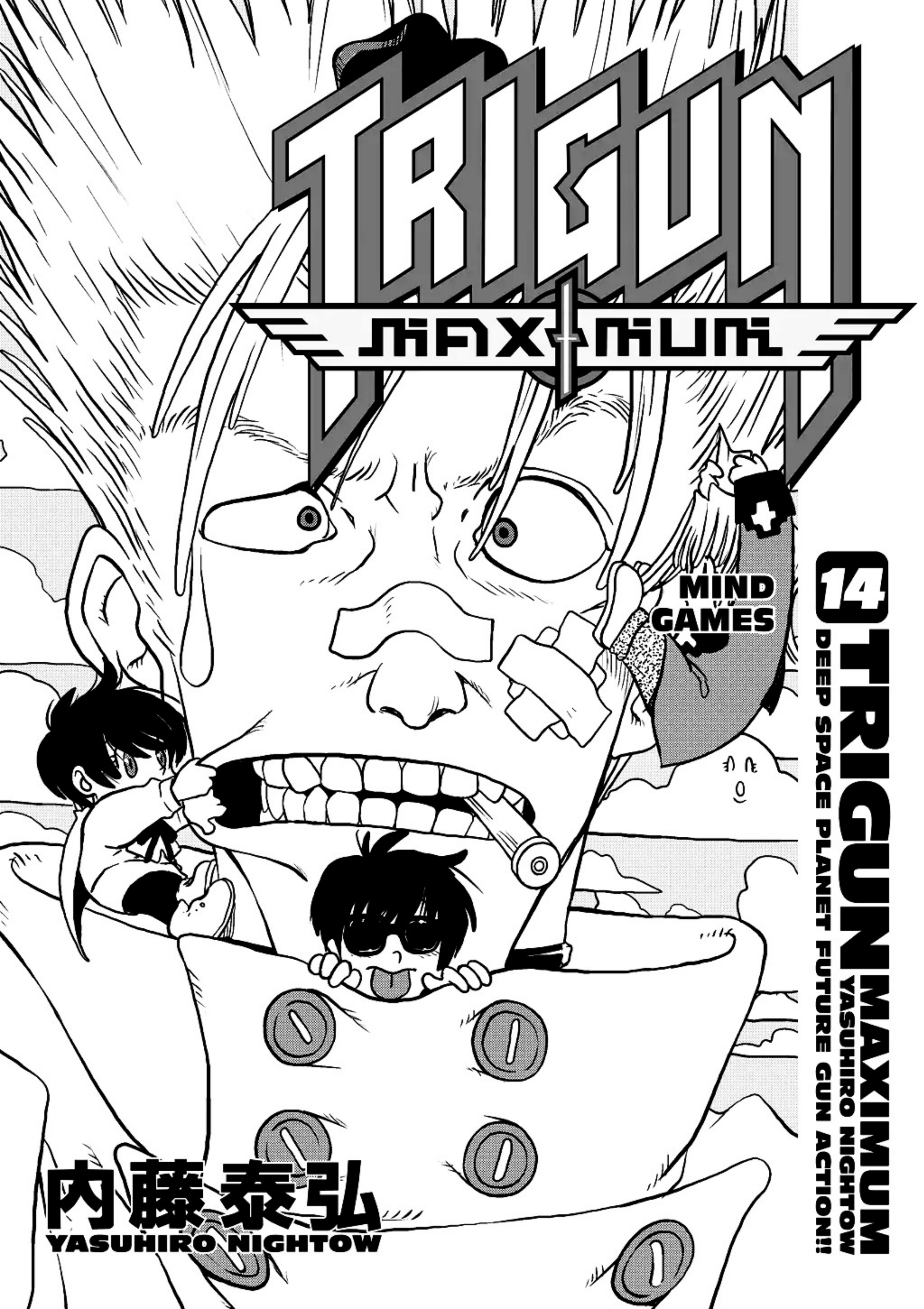
TRIGUN
MAXIMUM
MIND GAMES
14
TRIGUN MAXIMUM
YASUHIRO NIGHTOW
DEEP SPACE PLANET FUTURE GUN ACTION!!
内藤泰弘
YASUHIRO NIGHTOW


TRIGUN
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TRIGUN MAXIMUM ULTIMATE VOL 14:
MIND GAMES

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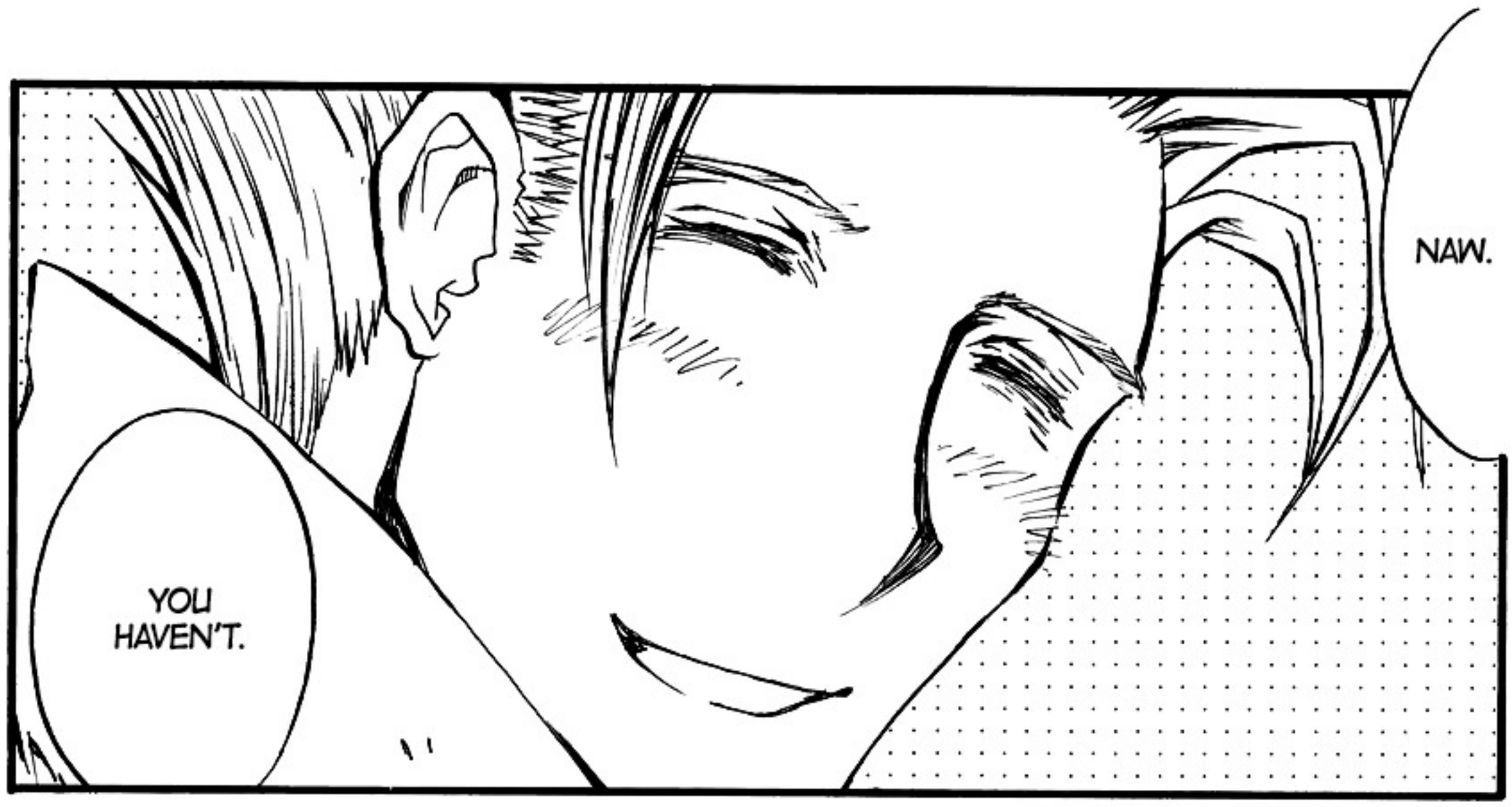
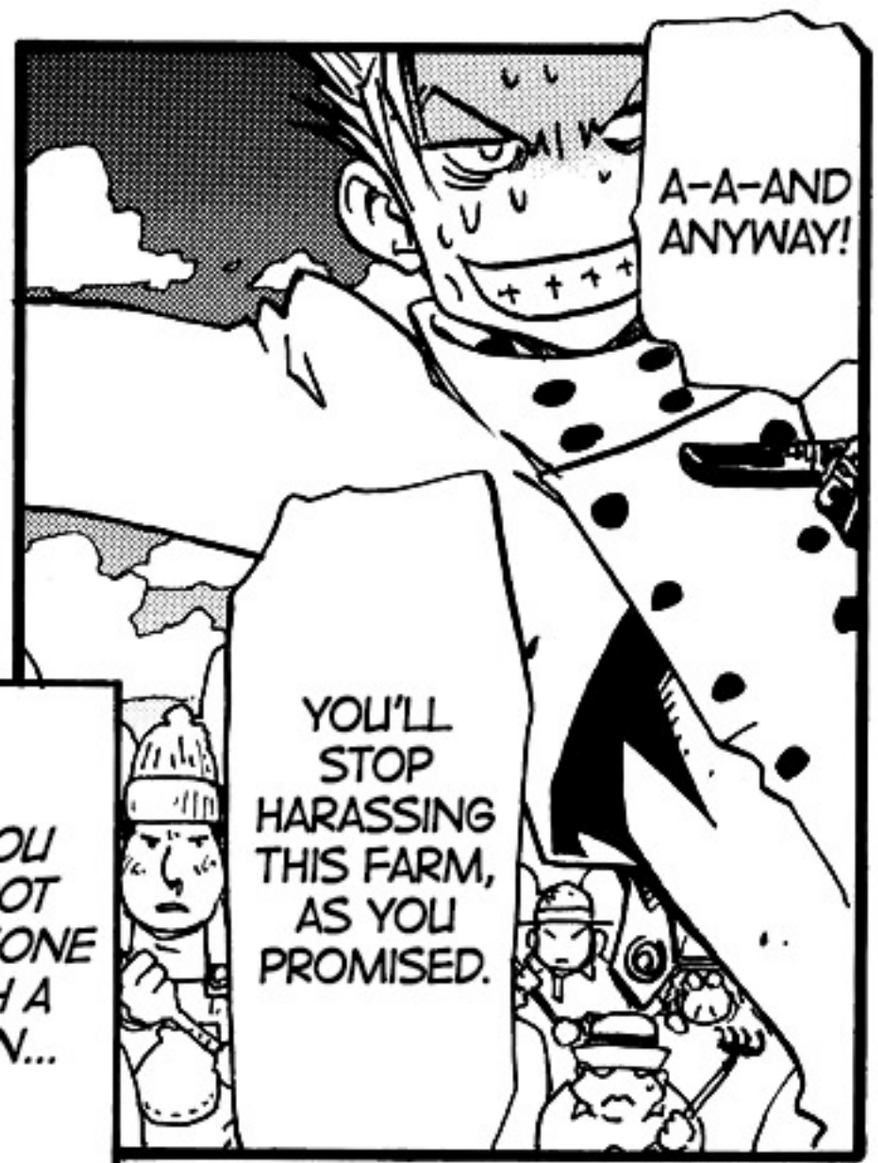
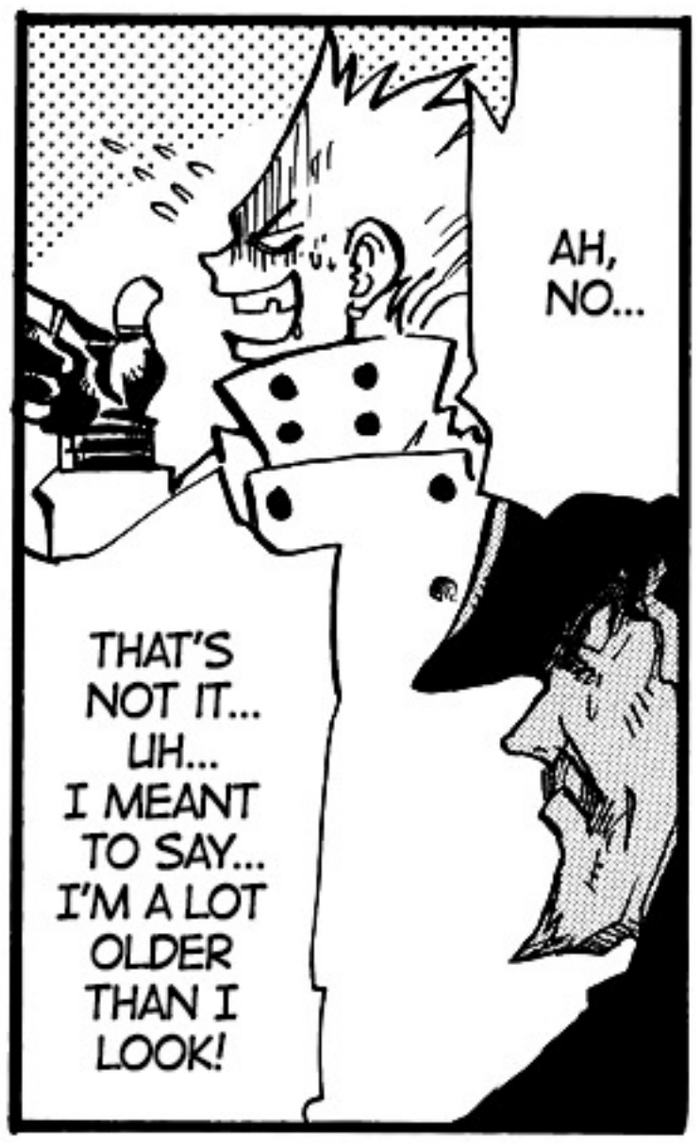
TRIGUN MAXIMUM 14
YASUHIRO NIGHTOW
DEEP SPACE PLANET FUTURE GUN ACTION!!
トライガン・マキシマム
内藤泰弘
YASUHIRO NIGHTOW

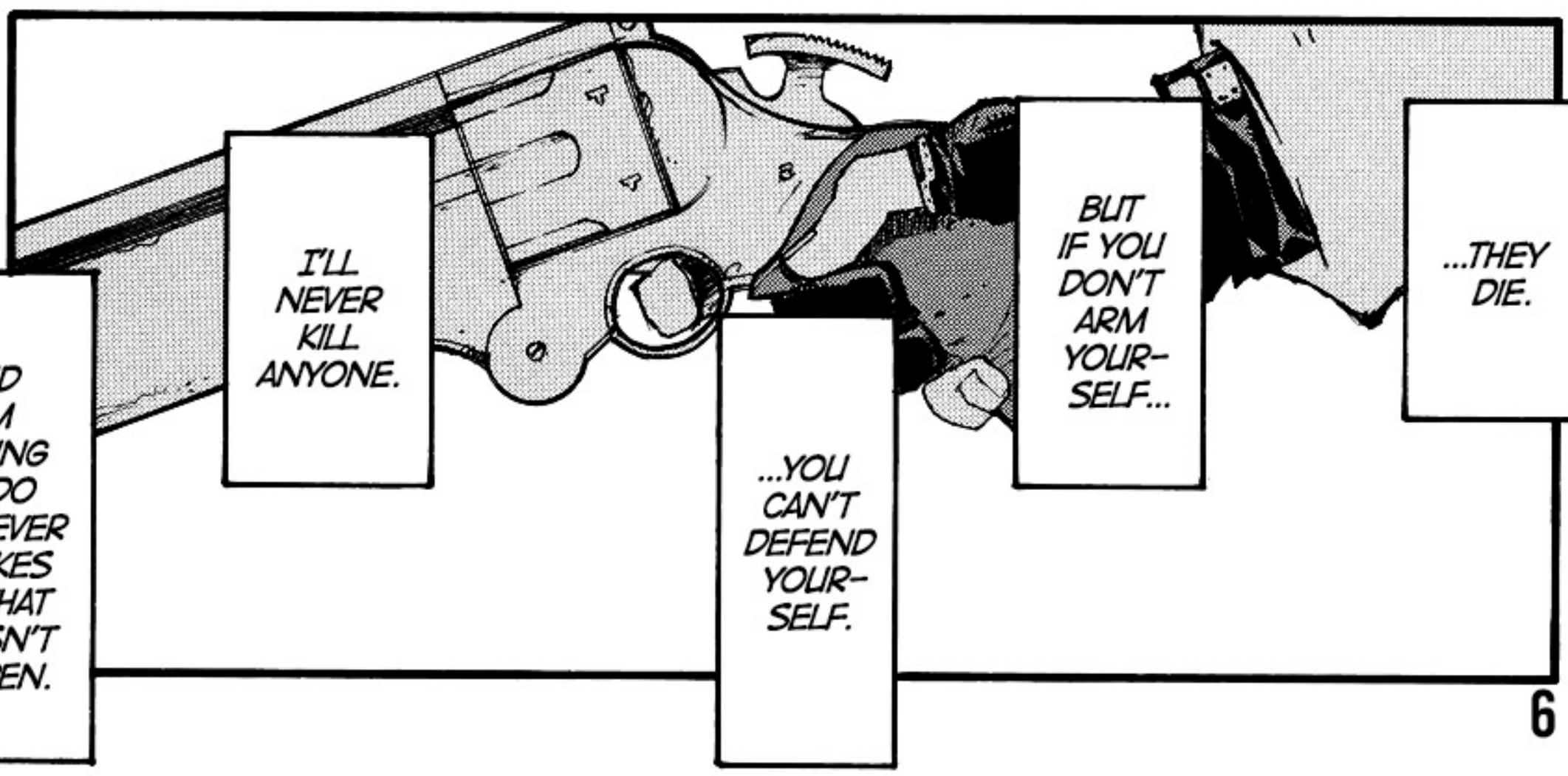
...
I'VE BEEN LIVIN' BY MY GUN...
...LONGER THAN YOU'VE BEEN ALIVE!
OH, REALLY?
NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE THE DAY WHEN A PUNK LIKE YOU WOULD OUTDRAW ME.
DON'T GIMME THAT SHIT!
WELL, GOD-DAMN!
LOOKS LIKE THE YEARS HAVE FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH QUICK-DRAW JUDD.


YOU HAVEN'T.
NAW.


IF YOU SHOOT SOMEONE WITH A GUN...
YOU'LL STOP HARASSING THIS FARM, AS YOU PROMISED.
A-A-AND ANYWAY!


THAT'S NOT IT... UH... I MEANT TO SAY... I'M A LOT OLDER THAN I LOOK!
AH, NO...

??


AND I'M WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT TAKES SO THAT DOESN'T HAPPEN.
I'LL NEVER KILL ANYONE.
...YOU CAN'T DEFEND YOUR-SELF.
BUT IF YOU DON'T ARM YOUR-SELF...
...THEY DIE.

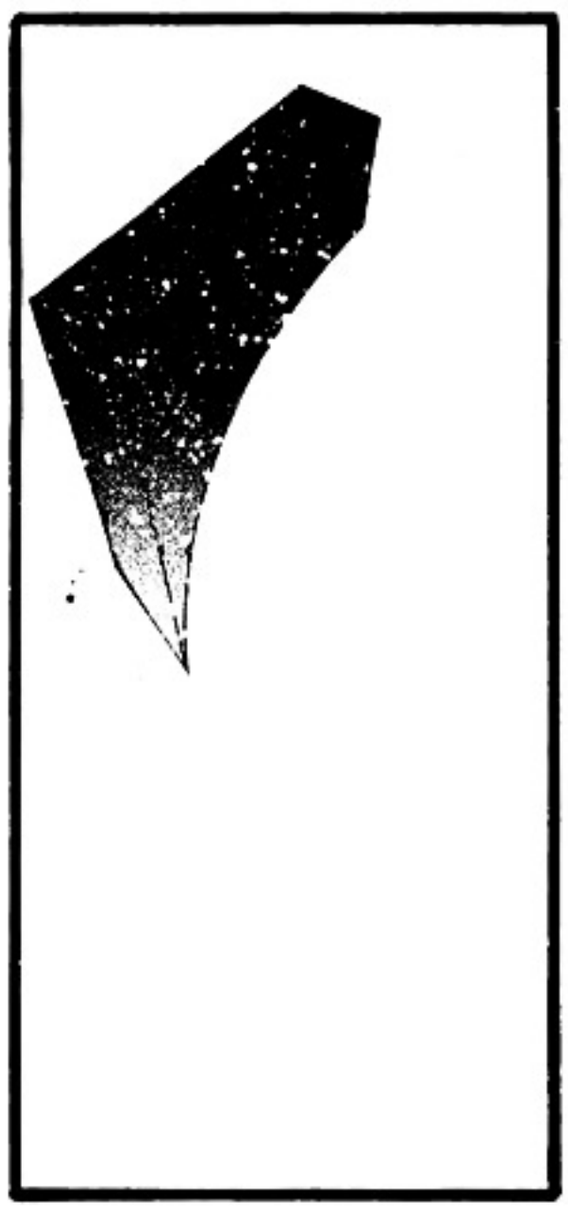
THAT IS HOW...

ANYTHING I COULD.

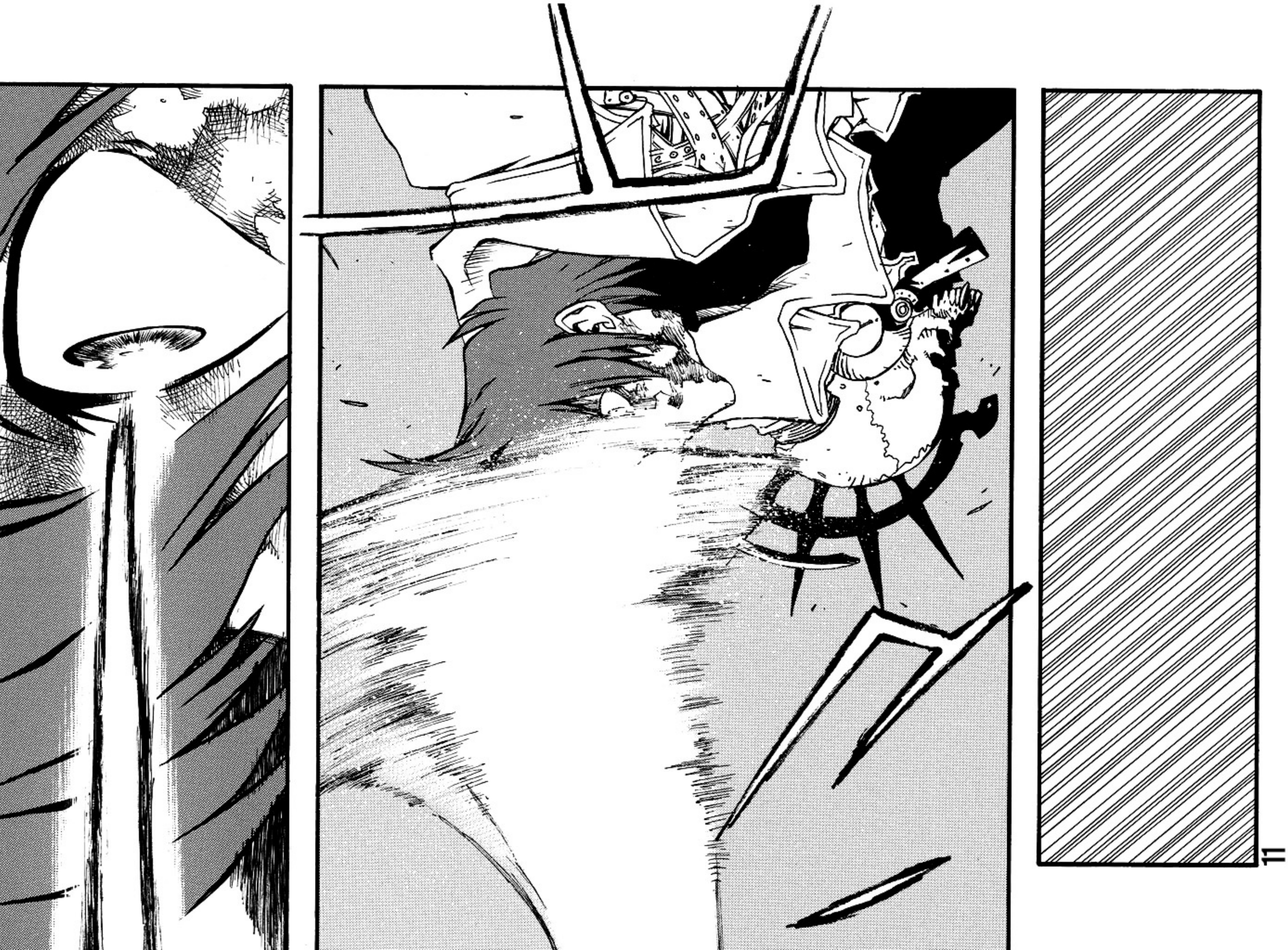
I'VE DONE...

...EVERY-THING.

...I LIVED MY LIFE.

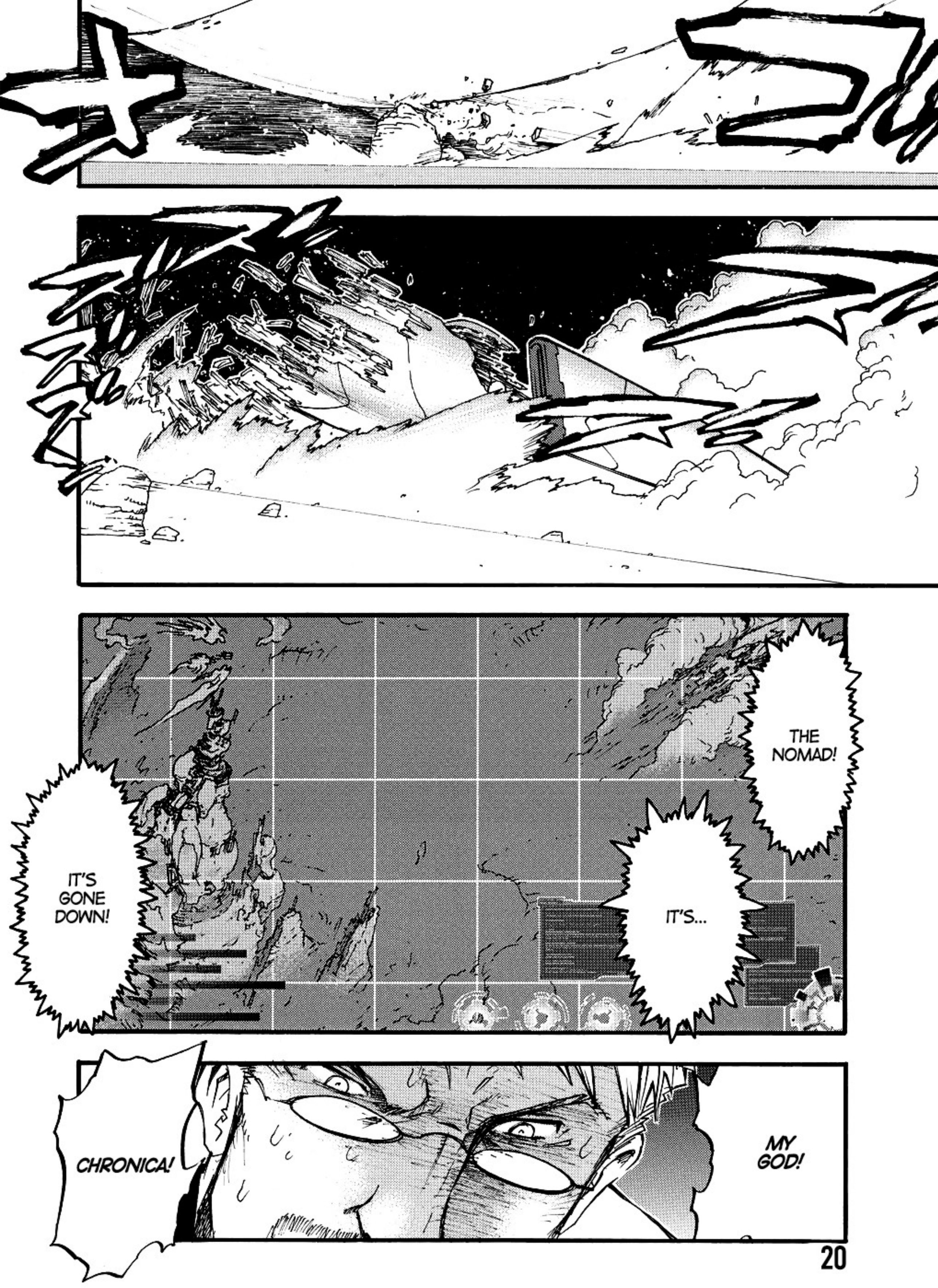


#01.
WHEN RIVALRY COMES TO AN END



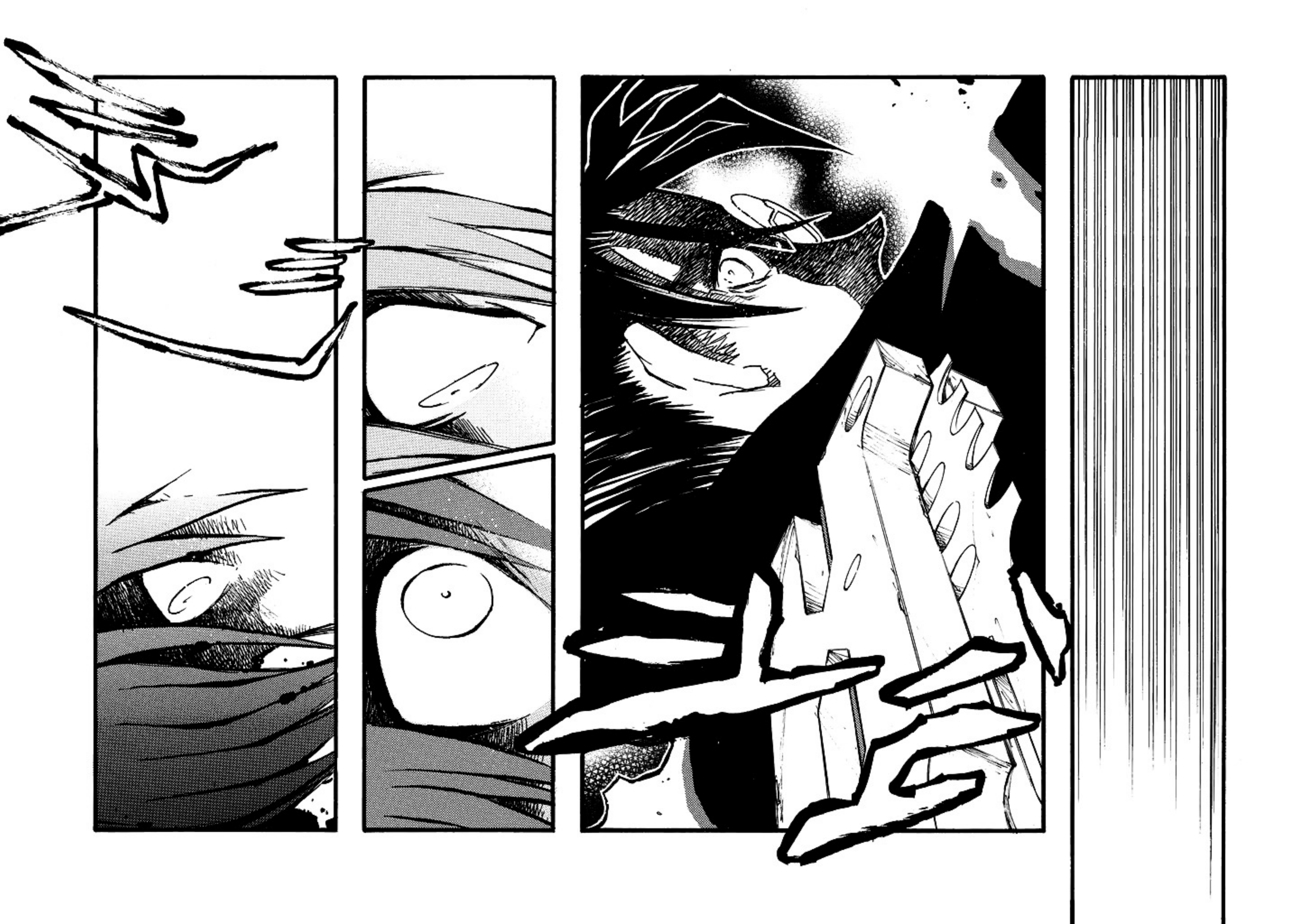
I'VE GOT YOU NOW, VASH THE STAMPEDE.

GET OUT OF HERE! GET AWAY FROM THE CITY!
WE CAN'T HOLD IT! WE'RE GOING TO CRASH!
NO TIME TO STAND AROUND AND GAWK! IT'S STILL FALLING!
AMAZING!
IT RIGHTED ITSELF?!
……

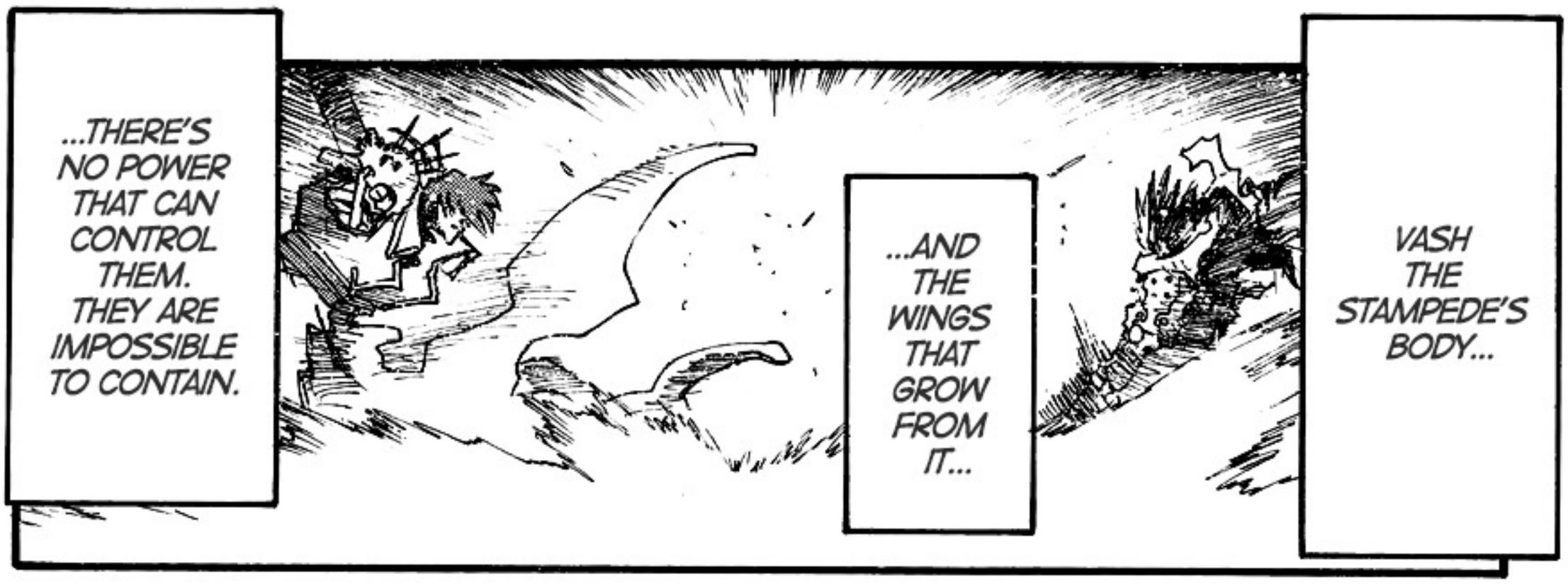

IT'S GONE DOWN!
THE NOMAD!
IT'S...
CHRONICA!
MY GOD!

HA! HA! HA! HA! HA!
HA! HA! HA! HA!
GOOD-NESS!
THAT MAN IS A *MONSTER!*
THAT WAS ONE OF OUR STATE-OF-THE-ART SPACE DESTROYERS.

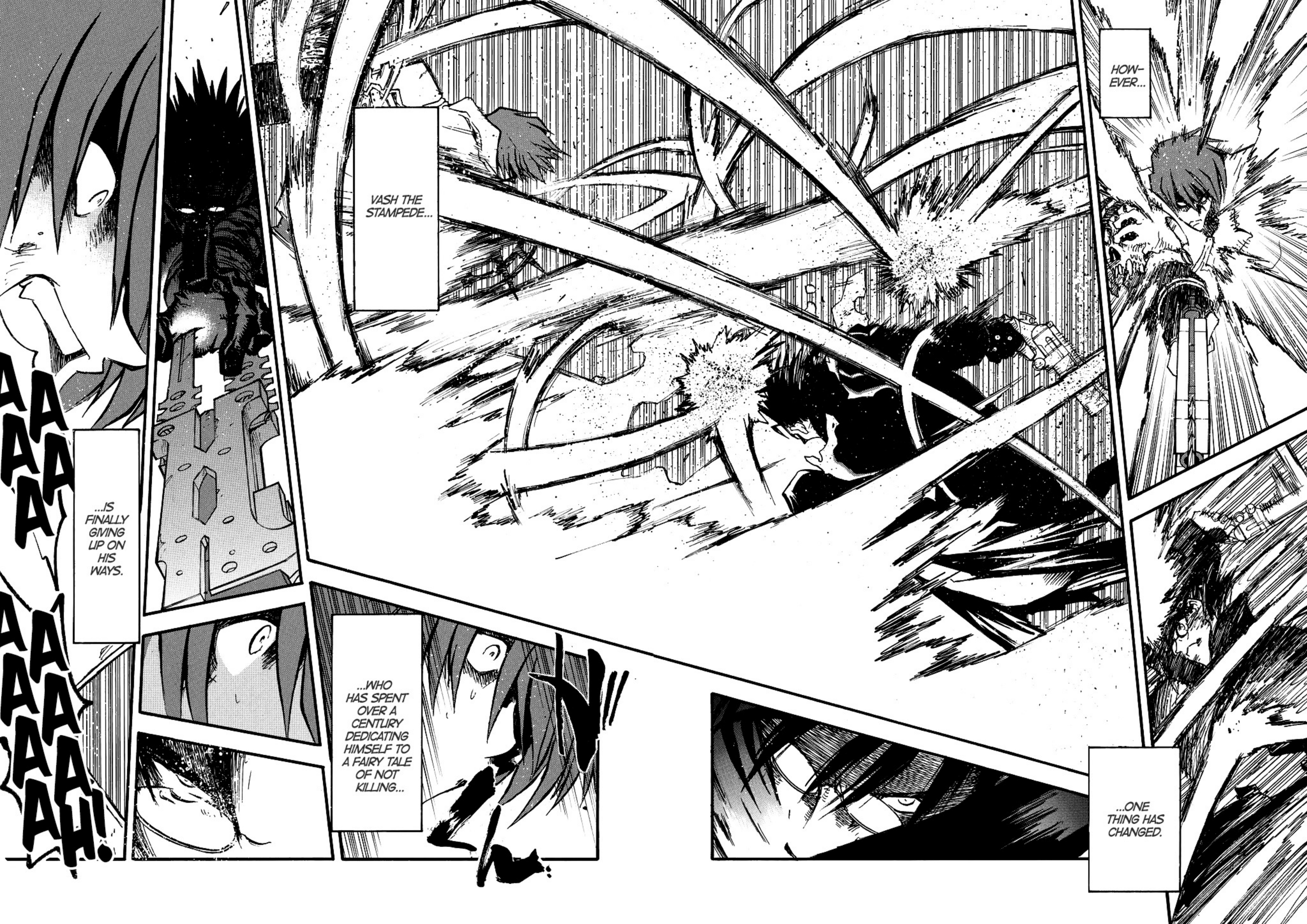
AFTER EIGHT MONTHS UNDER MY CONTROL, I WOULD'VE THOUGHT YOU'D KNOW BETTER.
IT'S NO USE.
THERE'S *NO* ESCAPE.
ONCE YOU'VE FALLEN INTO MY TRAP, YOU CAN'T MOVE A FINGER.

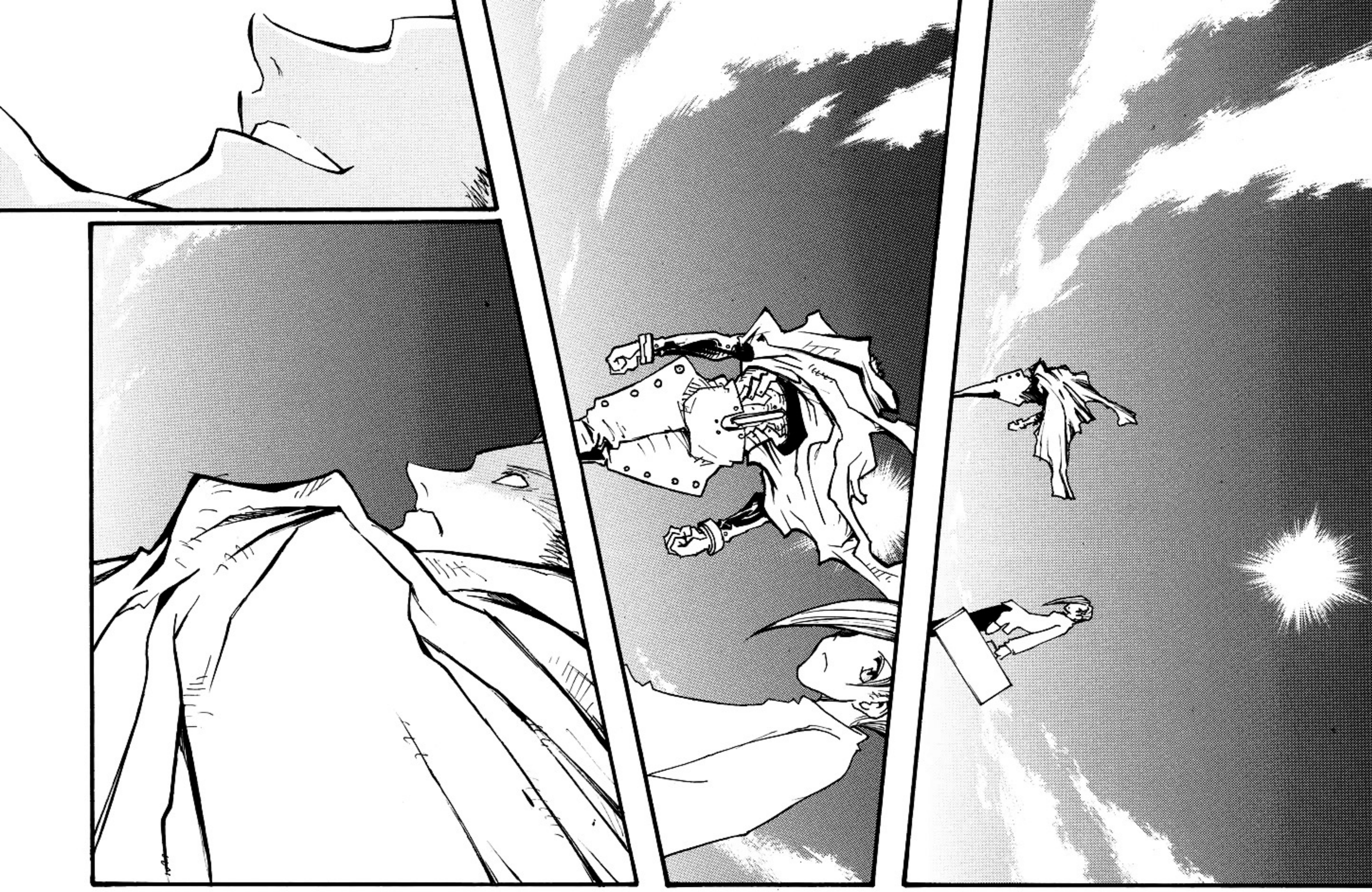


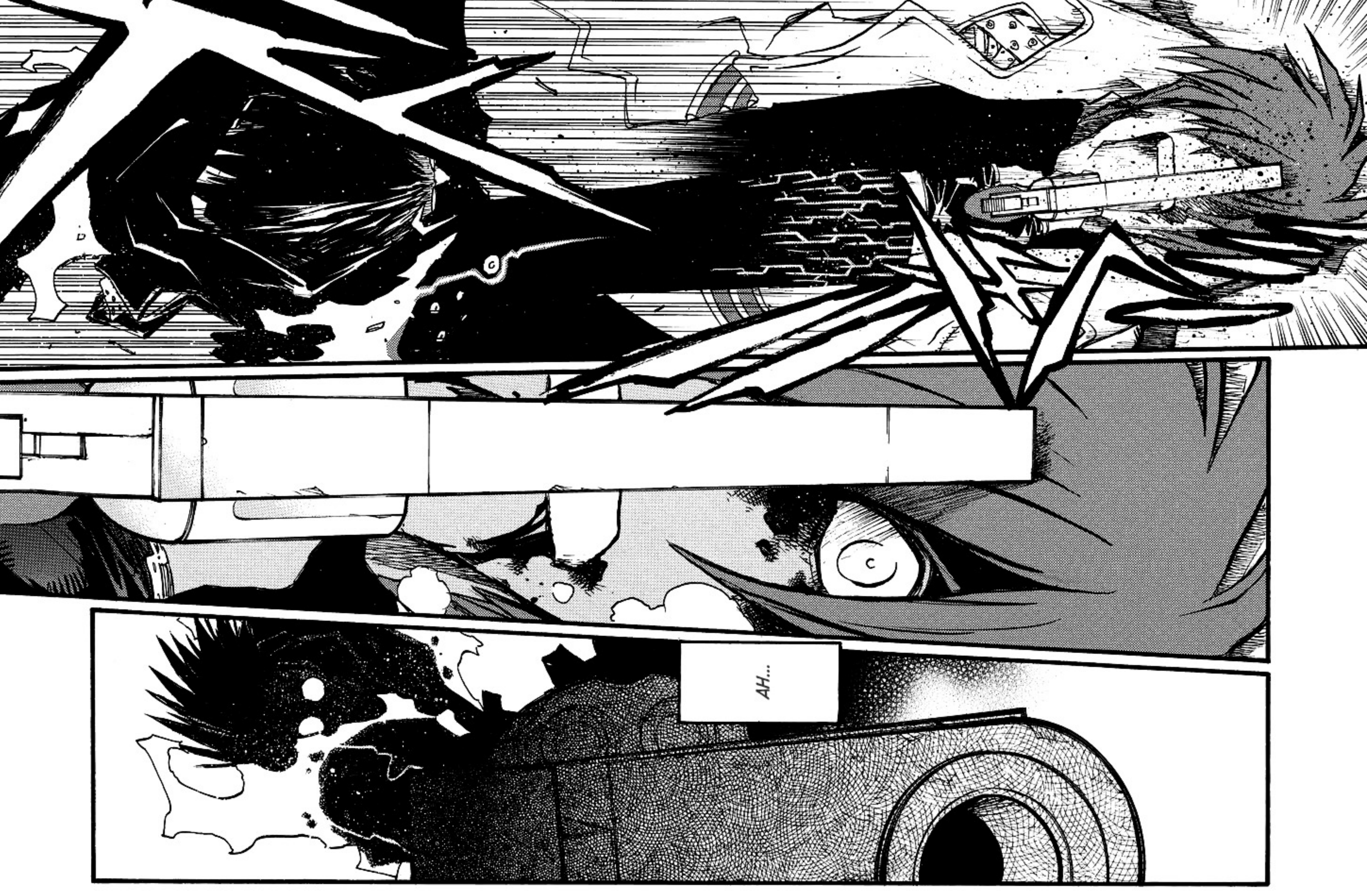
I...
I CAN'T HOLD HIM.
HIS BODY...


...THERE'S NO POWER THAT CAN CONTROL THEM. THEY ARE IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTAIN.
...AND THE WINGS THAT GROW FROM IT...
VASH THE STAMPEDE'S BODY...

I DON'T BELIEVE HE EVEN REALIZES IT HIM-SELF.
...POLAR OPPO-SITES, CLASHING, EVENLY MATCHED.
AND YET...
...HERE WE ARE...


VASH THE STAMPEDE...
HOW-EVER...
...IS FINALLY GIVING UP ON HIS WAYS.
AAAAAAAAAAAH!
...WHO HAS SPENT OVER A CENTURY DEDICATING HIMSELF TO A FAIRY TALE OF NOT KILLING...
...ONE THING HAS CHANGED.




AH...

IT TOOK ONLY THE BLINK OF AN EYE...

...BUT A TREMENDOUS EFFORT.

I AM DEFEATED.

...HOW I DIED.

...HOW I FOUGHT...

I CANNOT REMEM-BER...

...GOOD.

THIS IS...

BUT...

...THAT IS GOOD.

YOU HAVE GOT TO BE KID-DING ME!!!

COME ON, SHOOT ME!

SHOOT ME!

THEN YOU DO THIS *BULL-SHIT!*

YOU *MOCK* ME, *PLAYING* WITH MY LIFE!

YOU BASTARD!

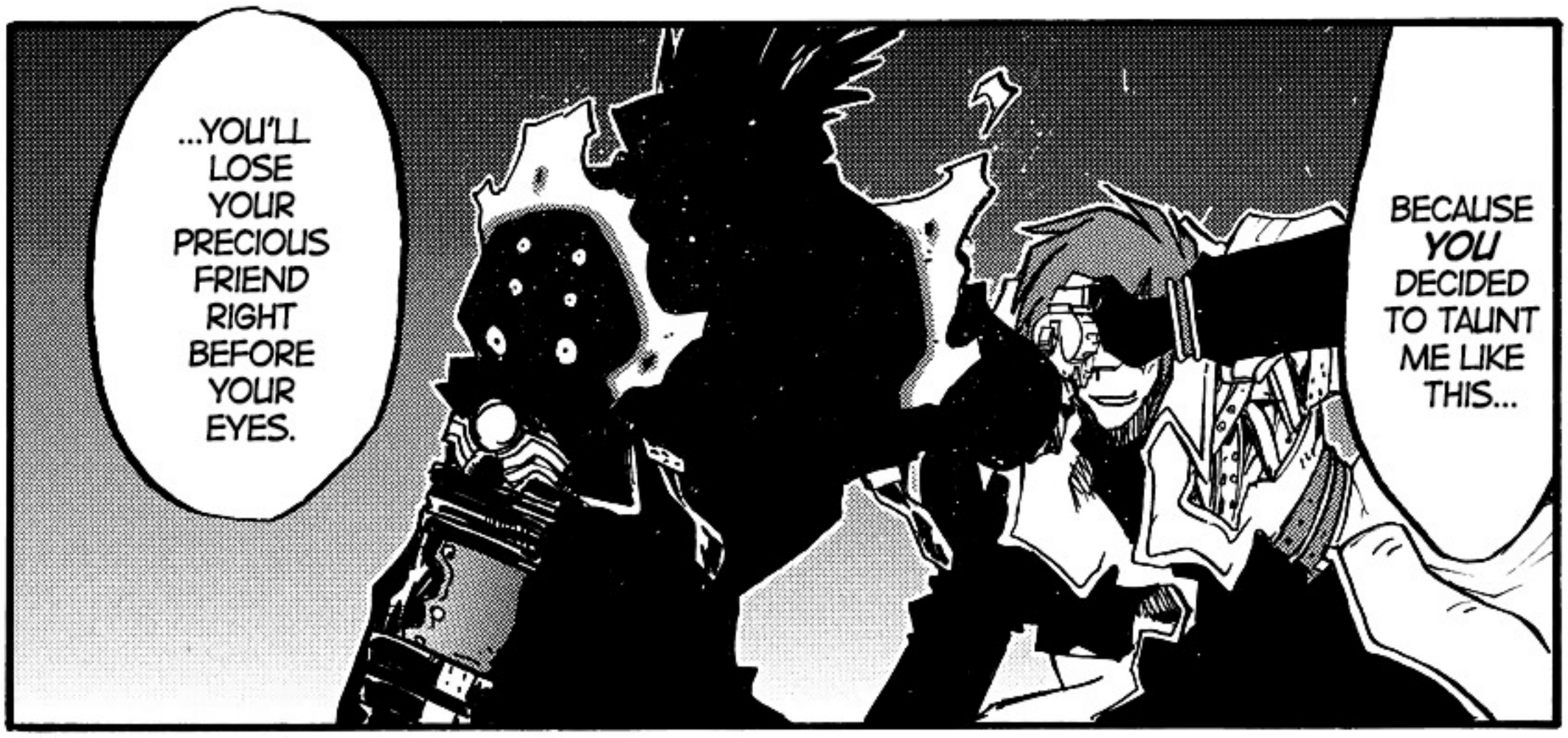
YOU'VE COME *THIS* FAR!

SHOOT MEEEE!

SHOOT ME!

JUST REMEM-BER THIS IS *YOUR* FAULT.

...
...
THEN WE'LL DO THIS ANOTHER WAY.


...YOU'LL LOSE YOUR PRECIOUS FRIEND RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES.
BECAUSE *YOU* DECIDED TO TAUNT ME LIKE THIS...

YOU THINK I CAN'T?

OR SPLIT HIS SKULL IN TWO?
SHALL I RIP OFF HIS HEAD?
PERHAPS TEAR OUT HIS HEART.

...CAN REACH FAR AND WIDE.

MY THREADS...

HEH HEH HEH, THAT'S RIGHT.

AND, OF COURSE, YOUR ALLIES.

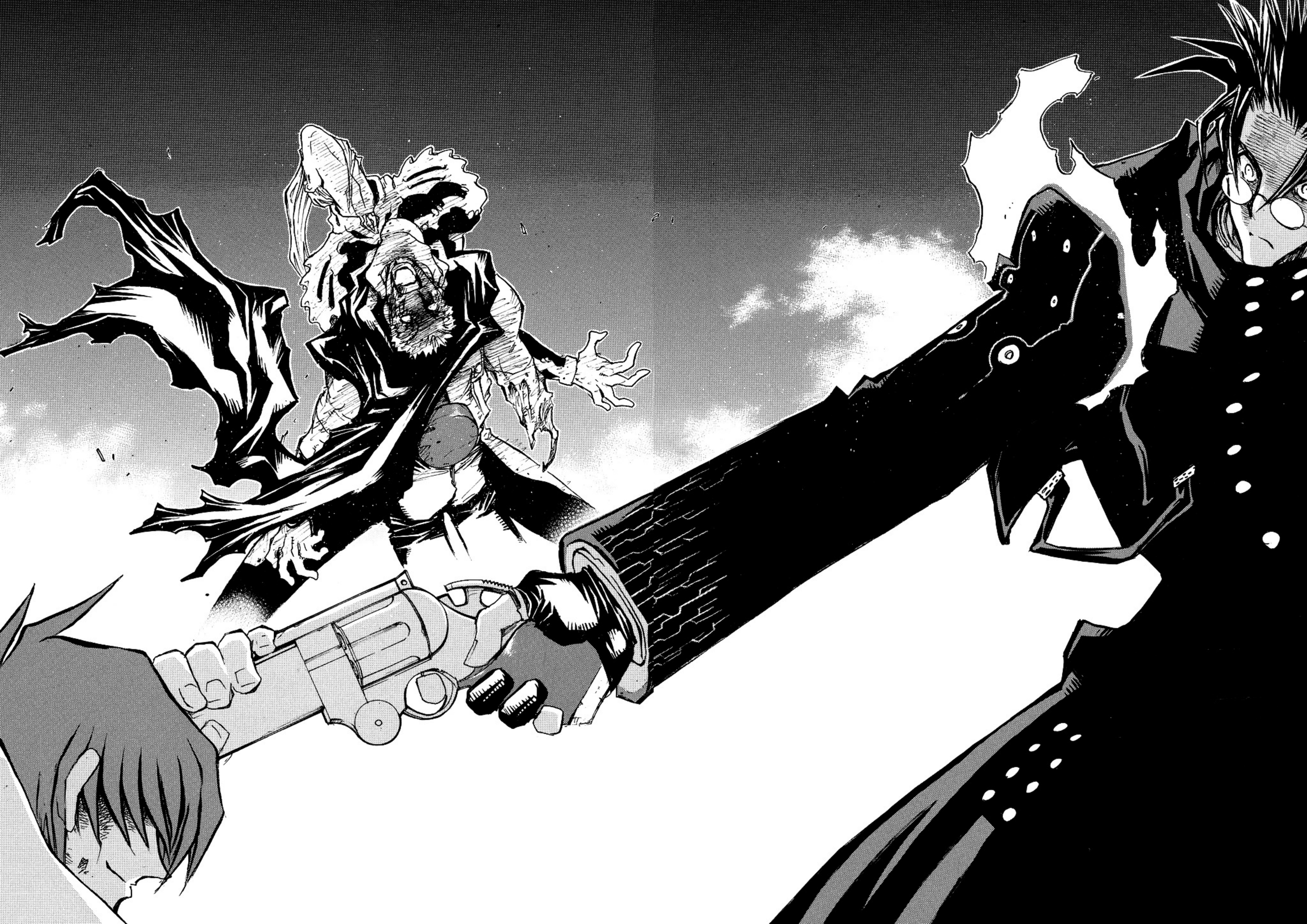
THE WORKING CLASS, THE RICH, THE SINNERS AND THE SAINTS, WOMEN AND CHILDREN, EVEN THE DOGS AND THE CATS.

IT'S SO...

...THAT I CAN USE THEM LIKE THIS!

IT'S *OBVIOUS.*

WHY, YOU ASK?



STOP.
STOP IT!
HE MAY BE FROM THE EYE OF MICHAEL AND THEREFORE A LITTLE HARDER TO KILL...
DON'T...
HOLD STILL!
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE WILLING TO WORK WITH A MAN LIKE HIM...
...BUT I SUPPOSE I UNDER-STAND HIS USEFUL-NESS.
...BUT TEARING HIS HEAD FROM HIS BODY SHOULD DO THE TRICK.
THE NAILS ARE LODGED INTO HIS JUGU-LAR.
ONE WRONG MOVE AND HE'LL BLEED LIKE A FOUN-TAIN.

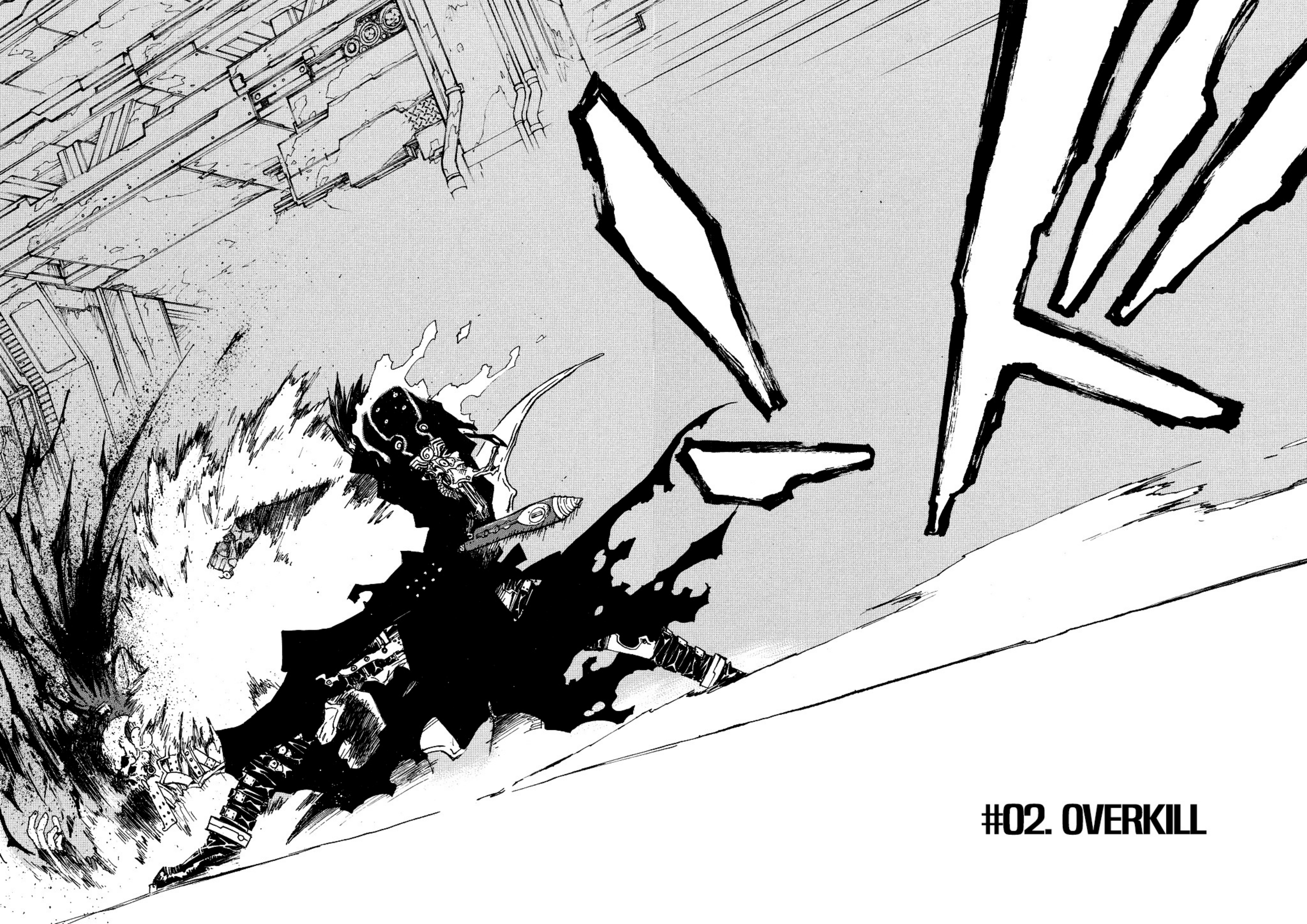
AAAA

IF YOU SHOOT SOMEONE WITH A GUN...

...THEY DIE.

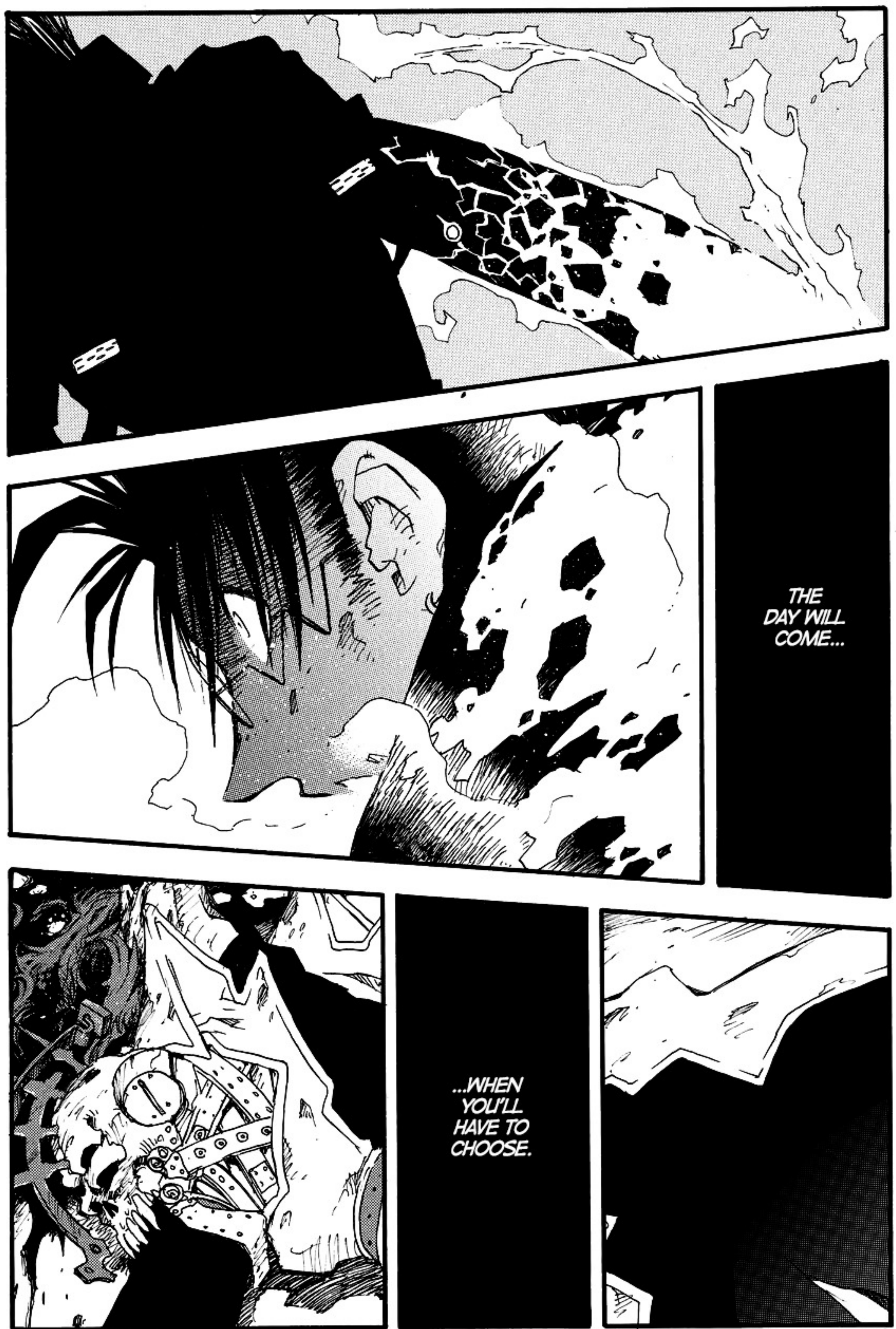
#01. WHEN RIVALRY COMES TO AN / END

D.
...AND SO COLD.
IT'S SO DARK...
IF YA DON'T WAKE UP SOON...
WAKE UP, LIVIO.
THIS IS IMPOR-TANT...
...THEN THERE'LL BE NO COMIN' BACK.
...DIFFERENT...
SOME THIN'...



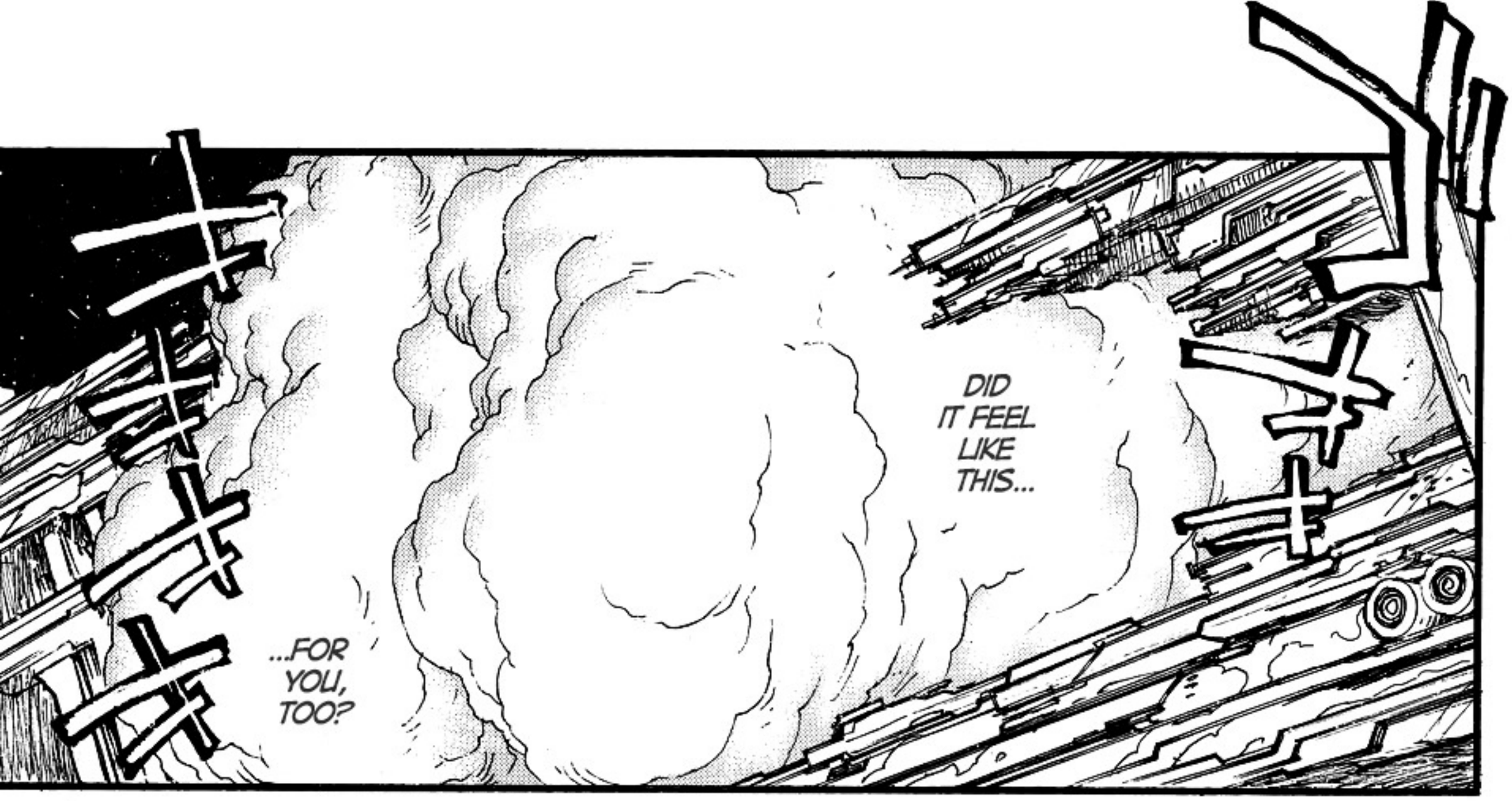
#02. OVERKILL

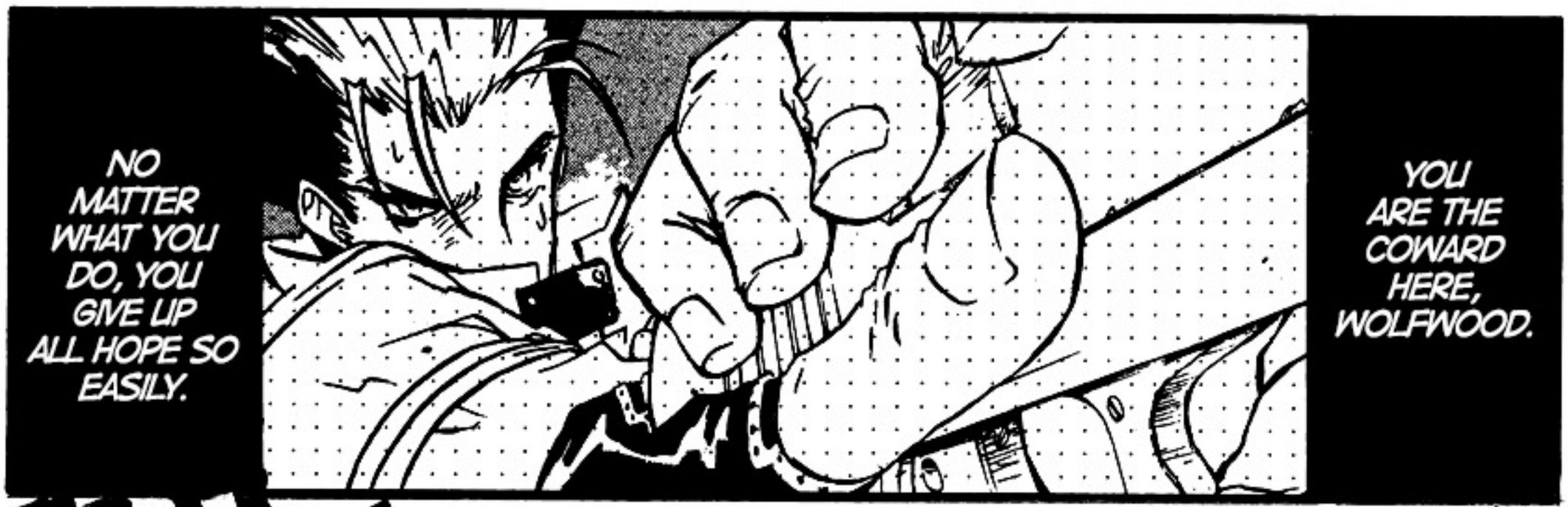
GASP!
HAAH!
HAAH!

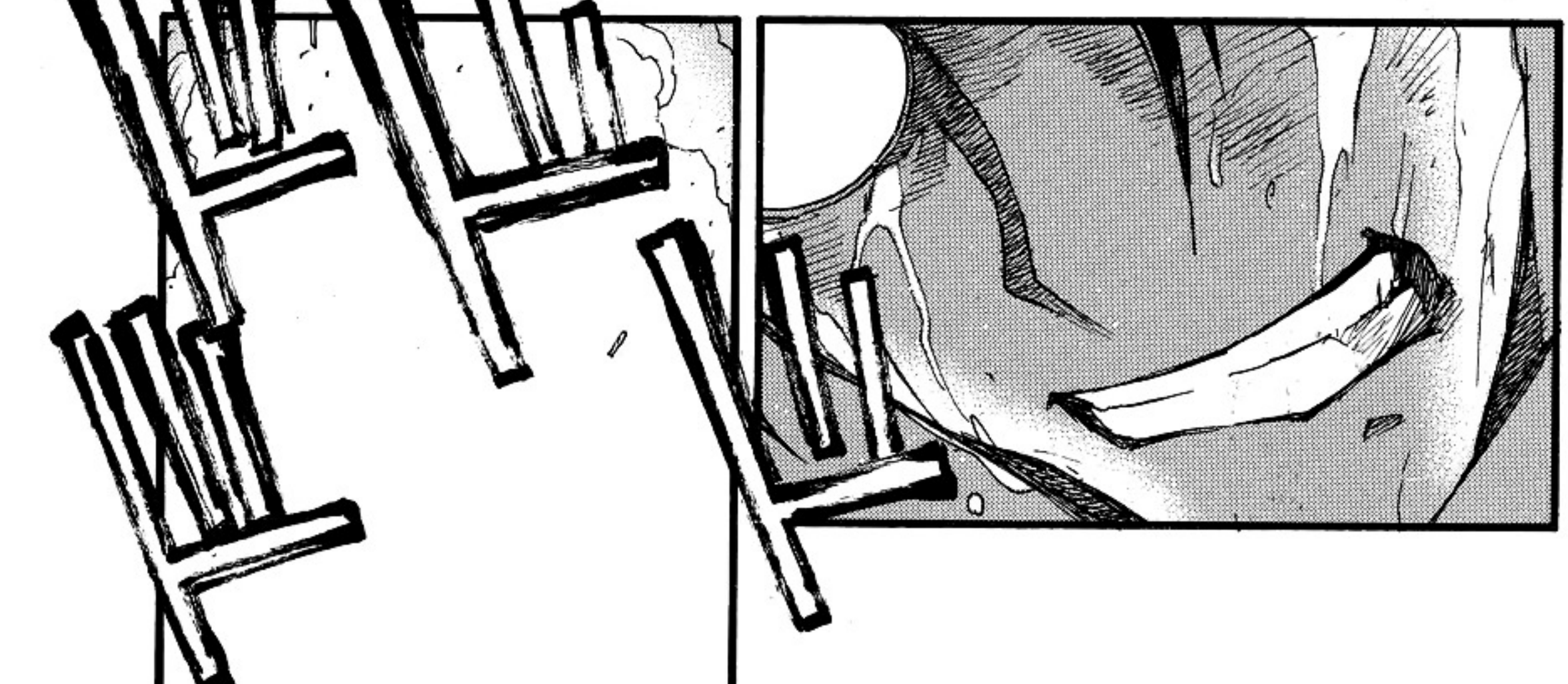

THE DAY WILL COME...
...WHEN YOU'LL HAVE TO CHOOSE.

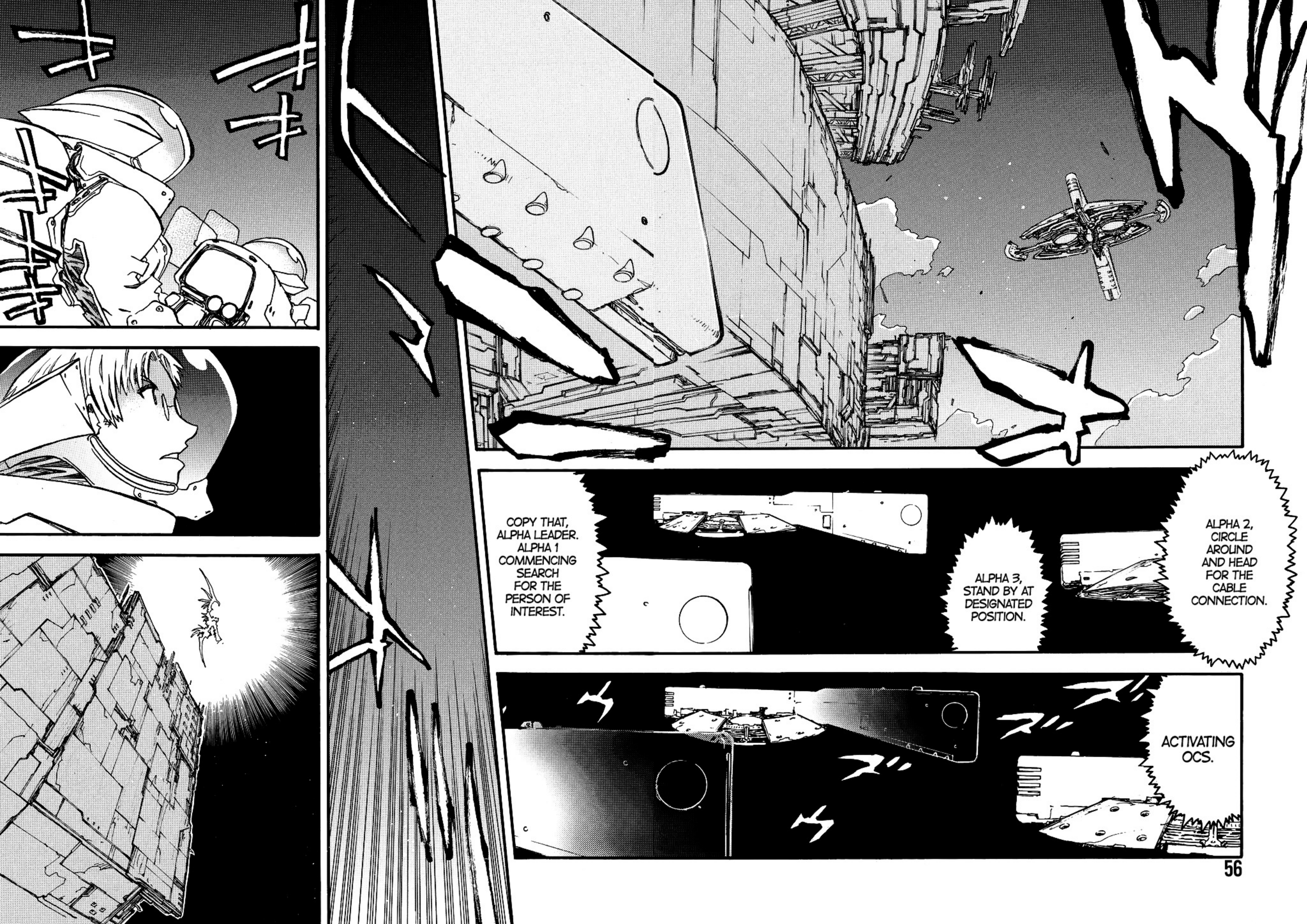
I HAD TO DO IT.
YOU GAVE YOUR LIFE TO PROTECT HIM.
I COULDN'T BEAR...
...LETTING THAT GO TO WASTE.

VASH!
VASH!


DID IT FEEL LIKE THIS...
...FOR YOU, TOO?


NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, YOU GIVE UP ALL HOPE SO EASILY.
YOU ARE THE COWARD HERE, WOLFWOOD.



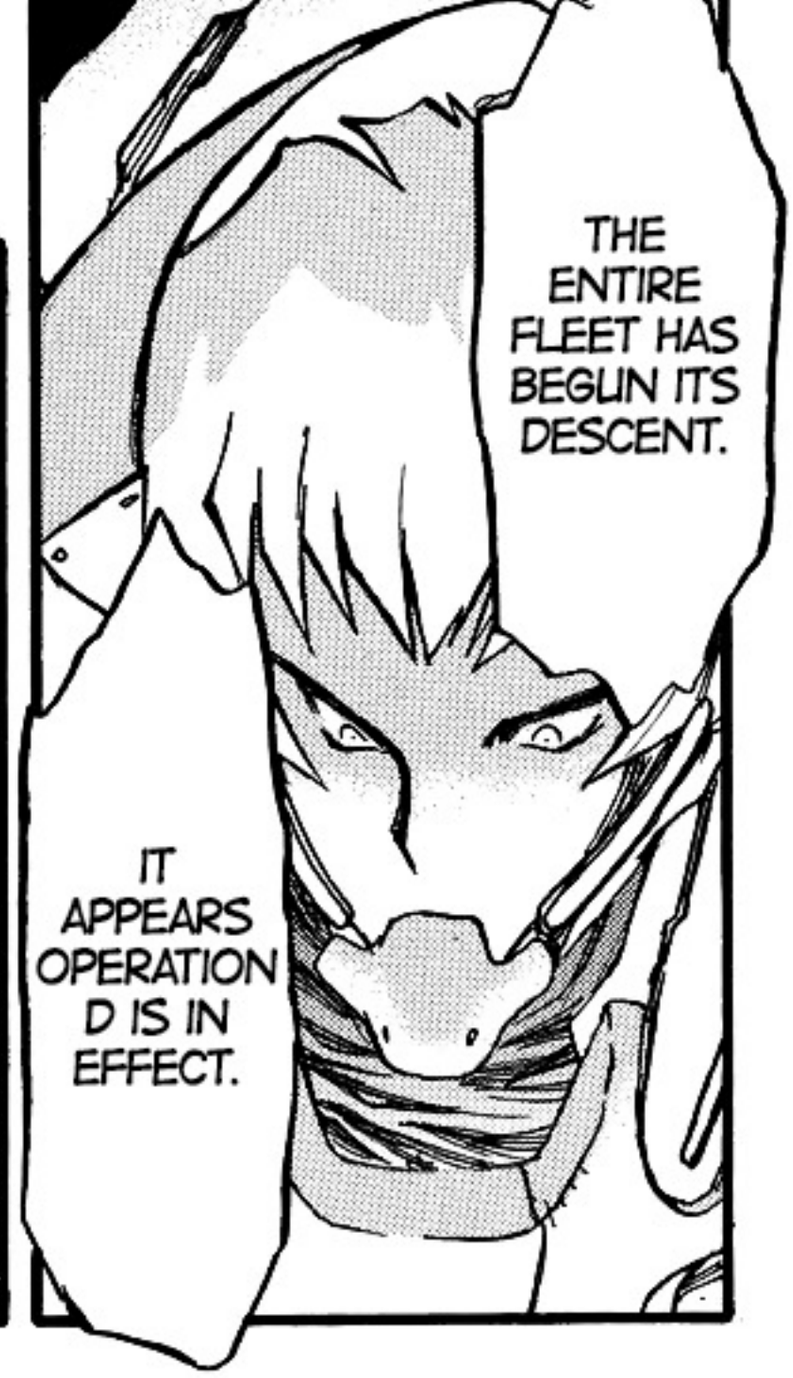

COPY THAT, ALPHA LEADER. ALPHA 1 COMMENCING SEARCH FOR THE PERSON OF INTEREST.
ALPHA 3, STAND BY AT DESIGNATED POSITION.
ALPHA 2, CIRCLE AROUND AND HEAD FOR THE CABLE CONNECTION.
ACTIVATING OCS.

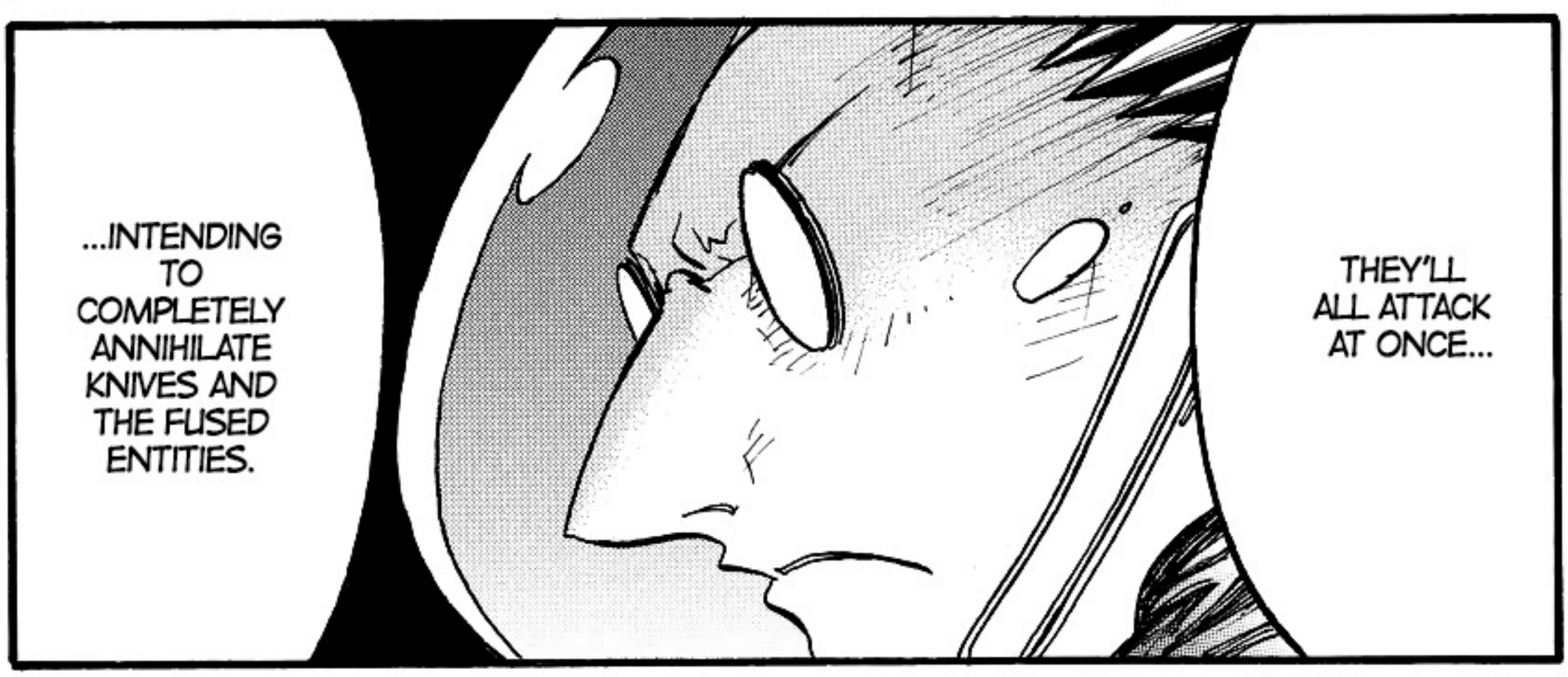
LALINCH!
...EAC-CABLE.
PRE-PARING...
SCOPE ALIGNING, .061, .023.
GOT IT!

WE SLIPPED RIGHT PAST HIM SO EASILY.
HUH?
IT'S STRANGE...
WHAT IS?
ALPHA 2 TO ALL SHIPS: CONNECTION SUCCESSFUL.
RE-GROUPING WITH ALPHA 3 AT THE RENDEZVOUS POINT.
...IS HE LOOKING AT?
WHAT...
!!
NO WAY!
THAT'S...
BWOOP
BLIP BLIP
!!

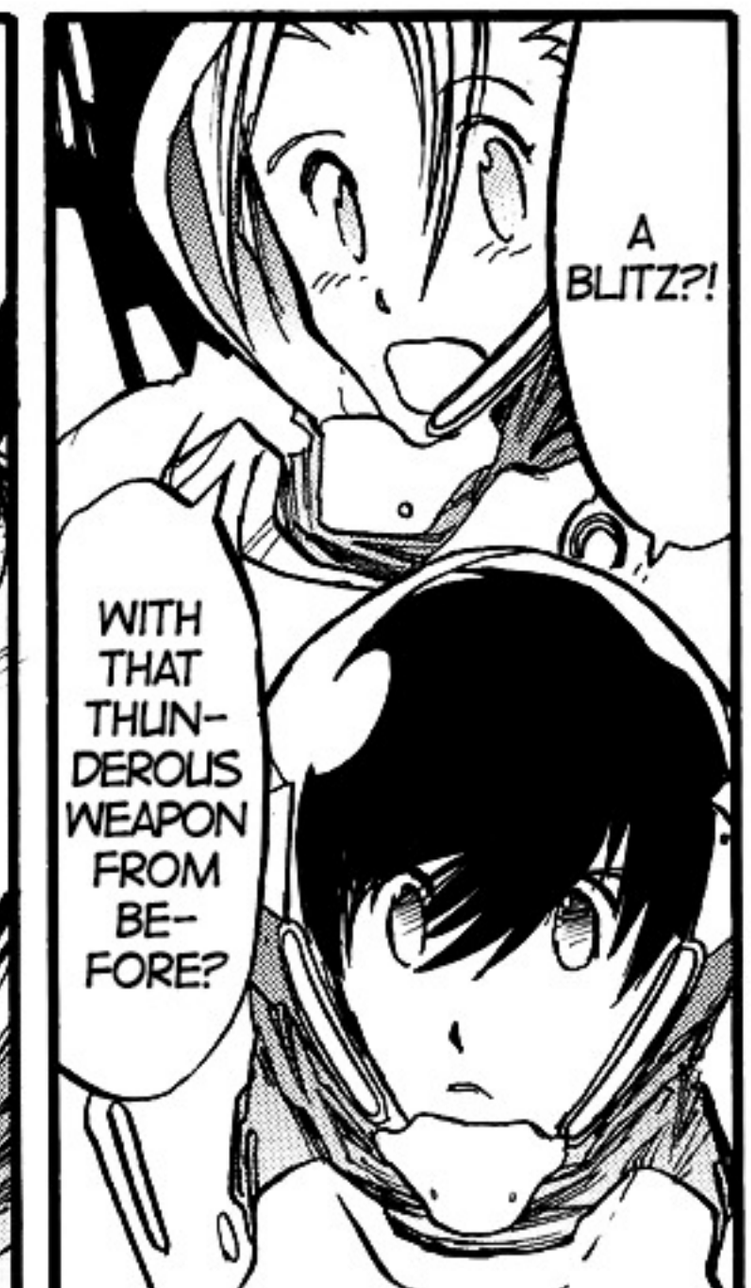
IT'S A BLITZ.

OPERATION D?


THE ENTIRE FLEET HAS BEGUN ITS DESCENT.
IT APPEARS OPERATION D IS IN EFFECT.

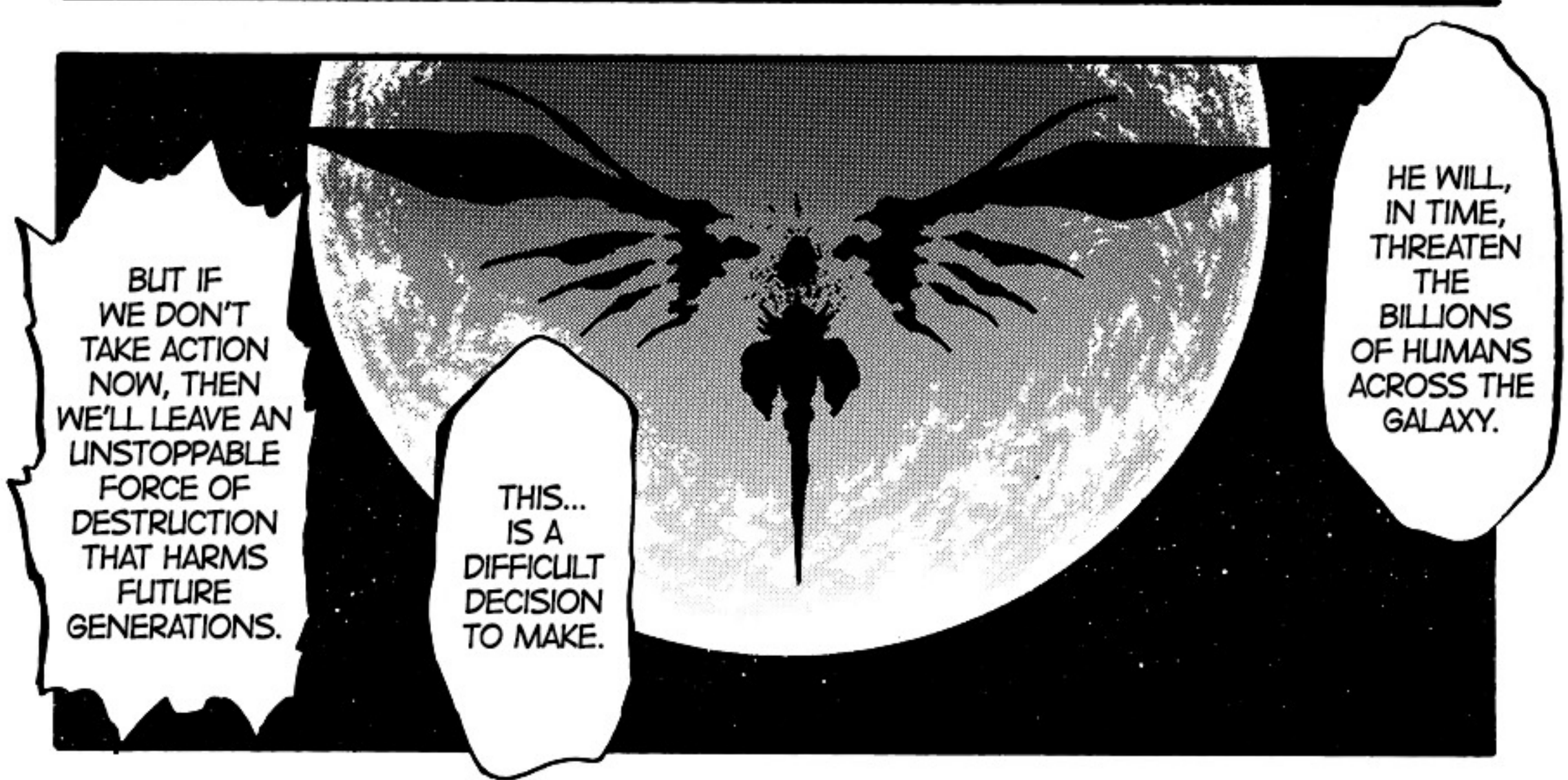

...INTENDING TO COMPLETELY ANNIHILATE KNIVES AND THE FUSED ENTITIES.
THEY'LL ALL ATTACK AT ONCE...

YEAH...
MR. VANCE, ARE YOU OKAY? IS THIS GOING TO BE ALRIGHT?


A BLITZ?!
WITH THAT THUN-DEROUS WEAPON FROM BE-FORE?

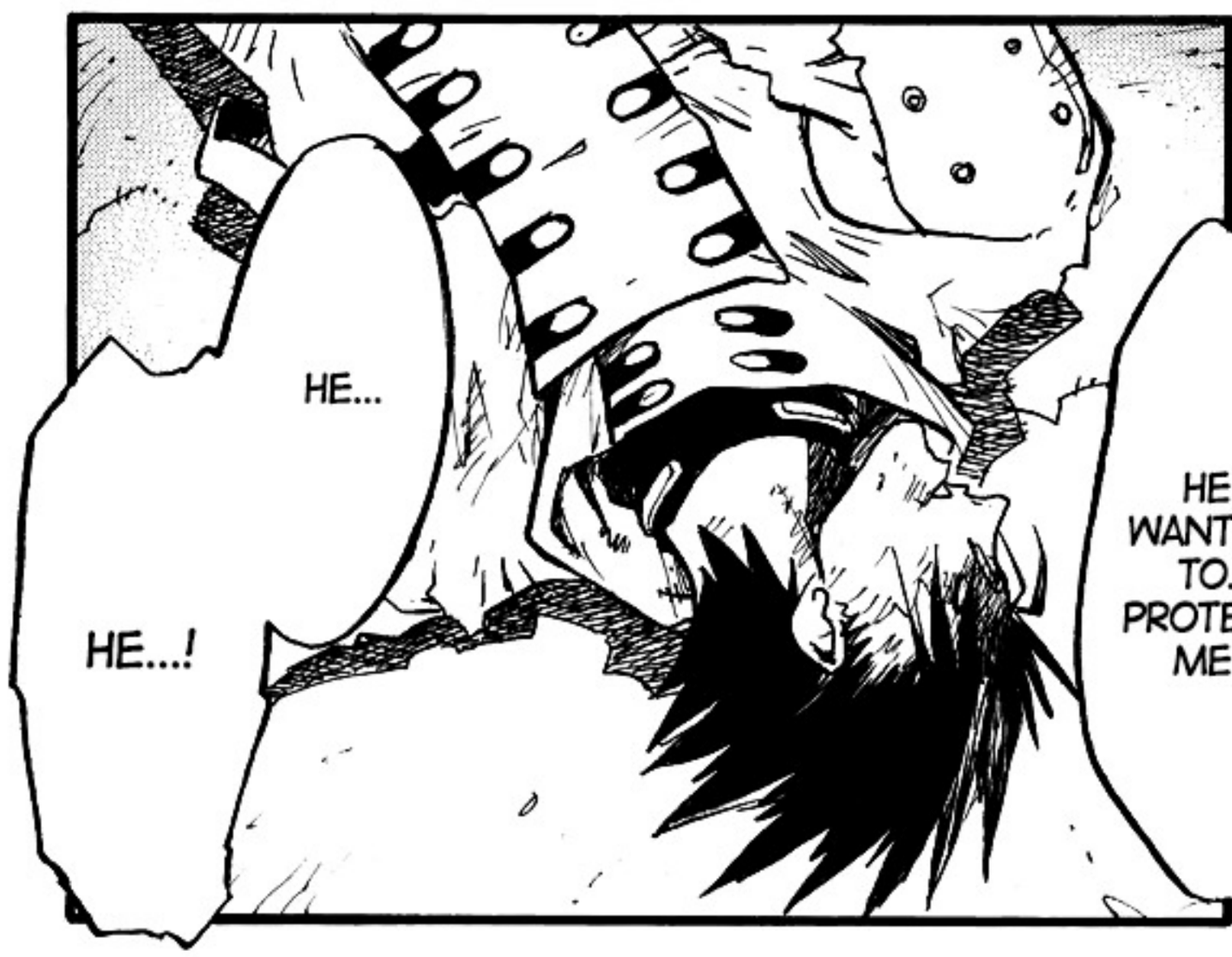
IF THOSE SEVEN STATE-OF-THE-ART WARSHIPS FIRE INSIDE THIS PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE, THE SURFACE WILL BE RAVAGED BY SHOCK-WAVES AND RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT.
AT LEAST 10% OF YOUR POPULATION WILL BECOME IMMEDIATE CASUALTIES.
NO, IT'S NOT GOING TO BE ALRIGHT.
WE HAVE TO STOP THEM!
NO!
?!
MR. VANCE!
IT'S BEYOND THE DECISION OF A SINGLE PERSON.
WE CAN'T. OPERATION D HAS ALREADY BEEN APPROVED BY EARTH'S CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

THE DANGER THAT KNIVES POSES GROWS EXPONEN-TIALLY.
AND THAT'S NOT ALL.
IT'S UNHEARD OF THAT A SINGLE ENTITY HAS BEEN ABLE TO COMPETE WITH A HEAVY SPACE DESTROYER.
YOU SAW THE NOMAD GO DOWN.

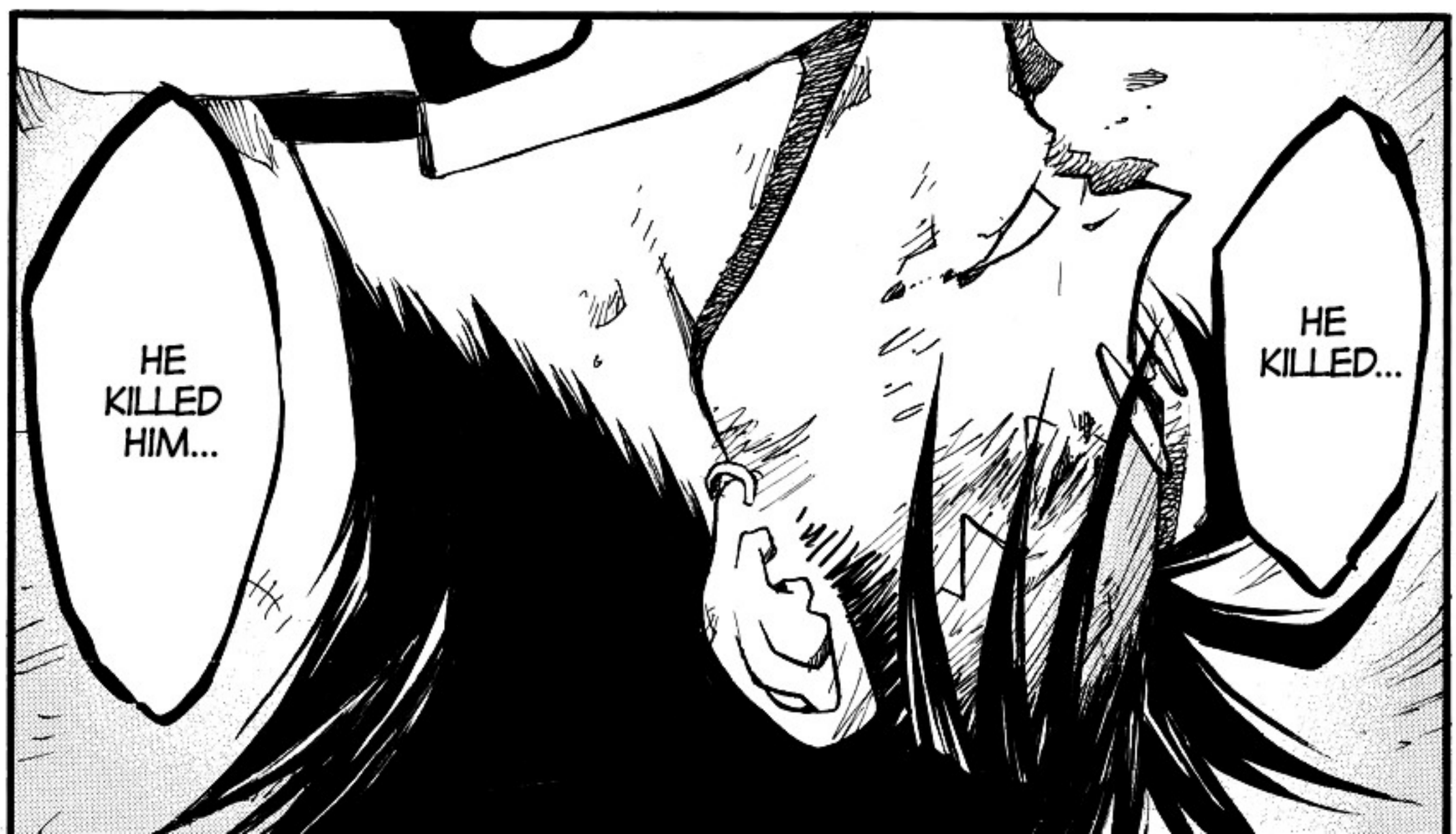

BUT IF WE DON'T TAKE ACTION NOW, THEN WE'LL LEAVE AN UNSTOPPABLE FORCE OF DESTRUCTION THAT HARMS FUTURE GENERATIONS.
THIS... IS A DIFFICULT DECISION TO MAKE.
HE WILL, IN TIME, THREATEN THE BILLIONS OF HUMANS ACROSS THE GALAXY.

MERYL!
MA'AM, MA'AM, MA'AM, MA'AM!
MA'AM!
THAT IS-!
DON'T BE RIDICU-LOUS!

I FOUND HIM!


HE...
HE...!

HE WANTED TO... PROTECT ME...
VASH... SHOT HIM...


HE KILLED HIM...
HE KILLED...

JUST A FEW MOMENTS AGO...
...THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT SACRIFICING TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.

SO TELL ME...

...WHEN IT'S NOT **THEIR** BLOOD THAT WILL BE SPILLED?

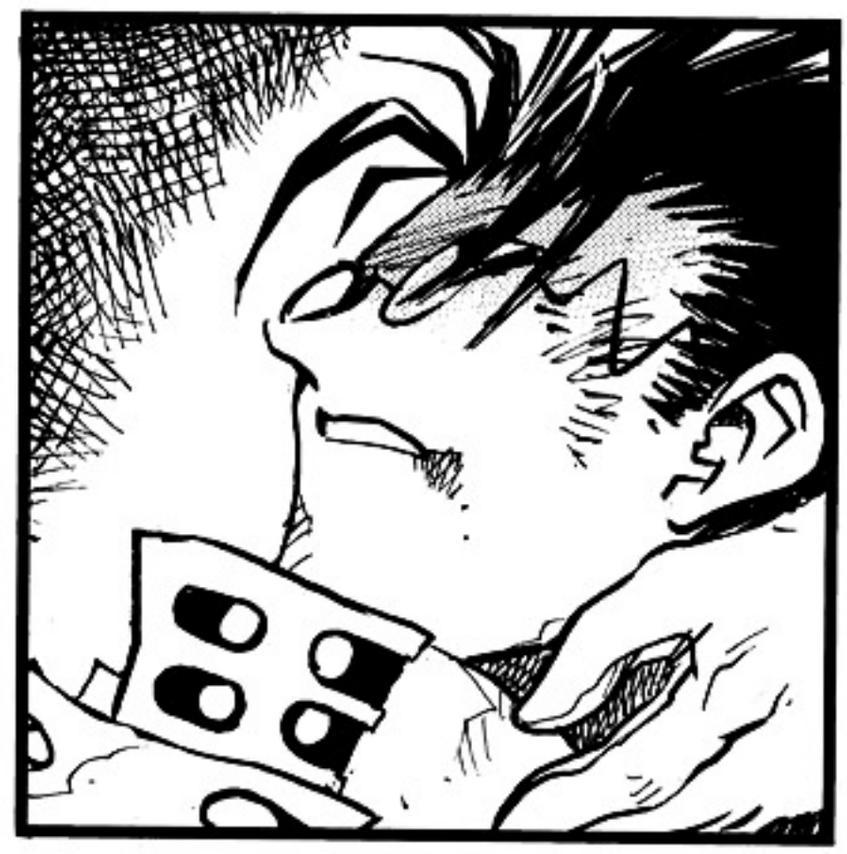
...HOW WAS THIS A DIFFICULT DECISION FOR THEM...

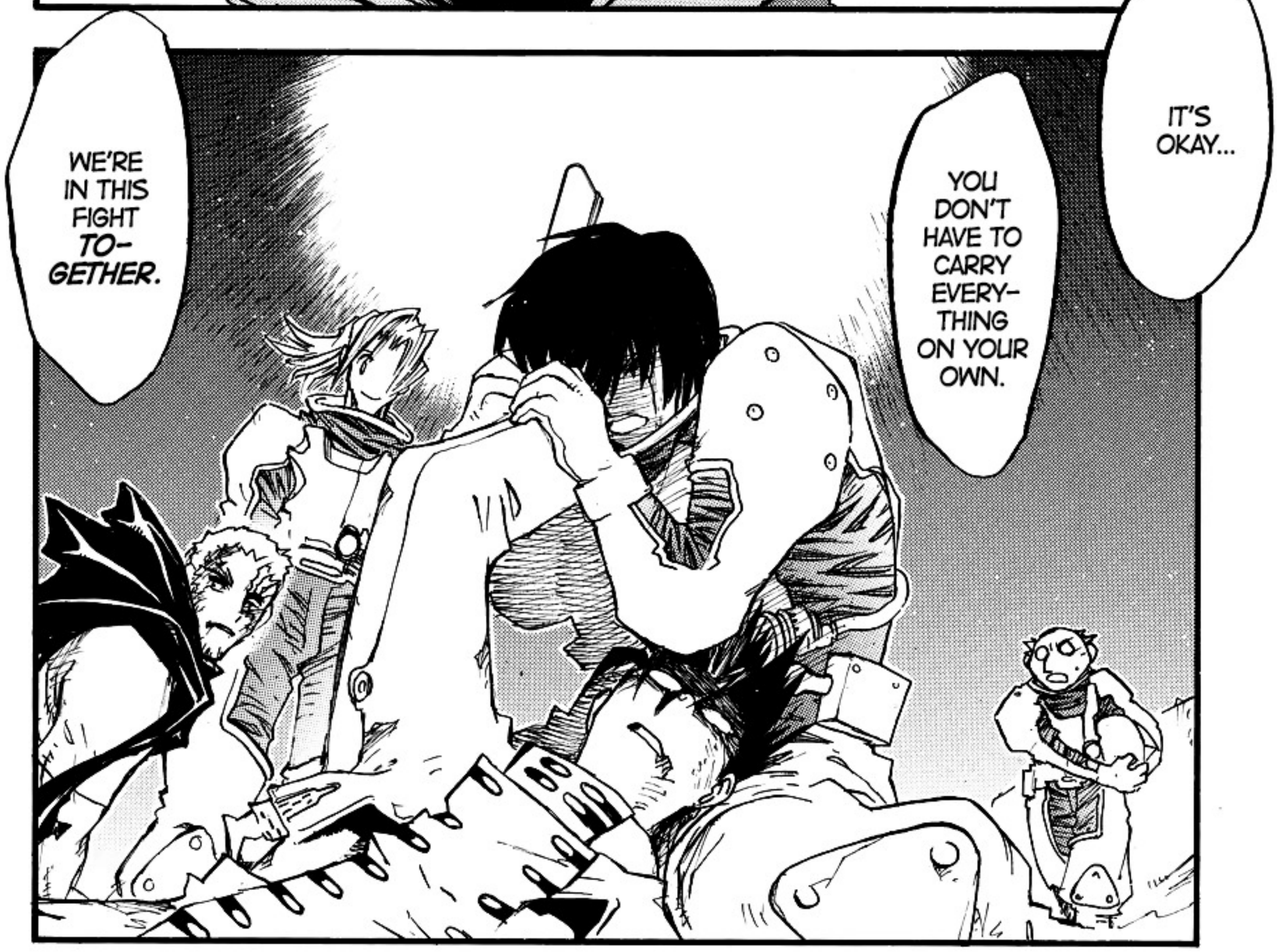
...SITTING SO FAR ABOVE US...

AH!

AH!

AH!

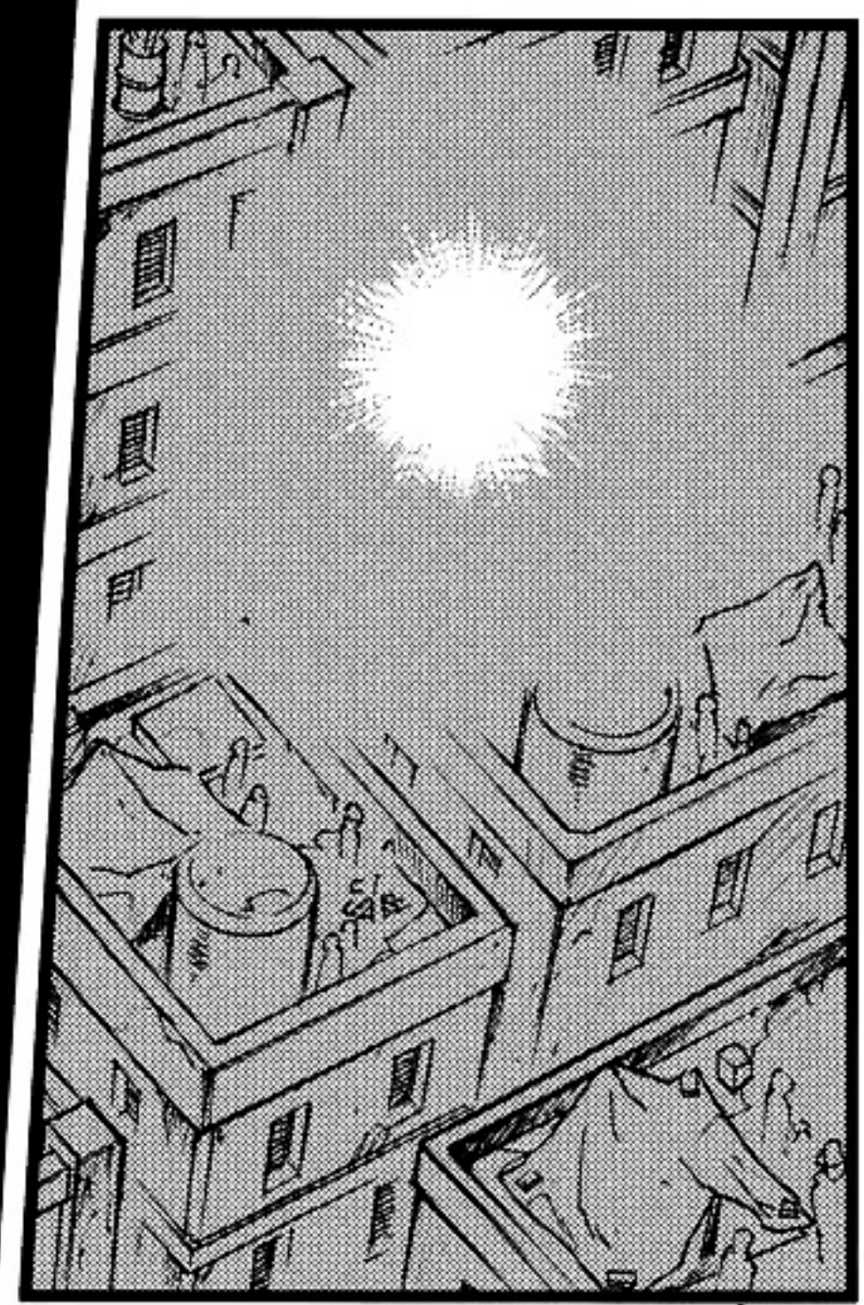



WE'RE IN THIS FIGHT *TO-GETHER.*
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CARRY EVERY-THING ON YOUR OWN.
IT'S OKAY...

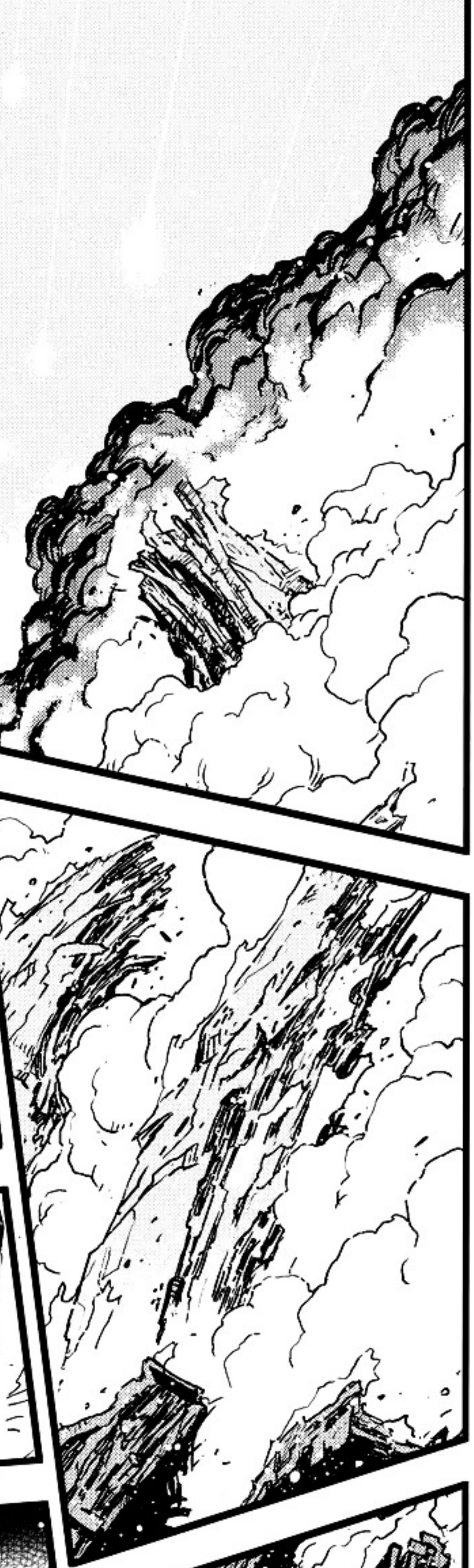
NEVER FORGET THAT.
PLEASE...

MR. VANCE...
YOU MUST HELP US FIGHT... TO THE BITTER END...
...THEN YOU'D BE WILLING TO RISK YOUR OWN LIFE TO SAVE THEM TOO, WOULDN'T YOU?
...IF YOU'RE WILLING TO SACRIFICE THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE ON THIS PLANET...
OF COURSE.
THAT'S WHY I AM HERE.

READY FOR TRANSMIS-SION!
ALPHA 2, ALPHA 3, WE'RE ATTACHED.
AL-RIGHT!
WE HAVE A CONNEC-TION!
SEND A "TALK TO ME" MESSAGE! AUDIO OR VISUAL FORMAT, ANYTHING!
IT'S TIME TO BRIDGE THE 150-YEAR GAP!

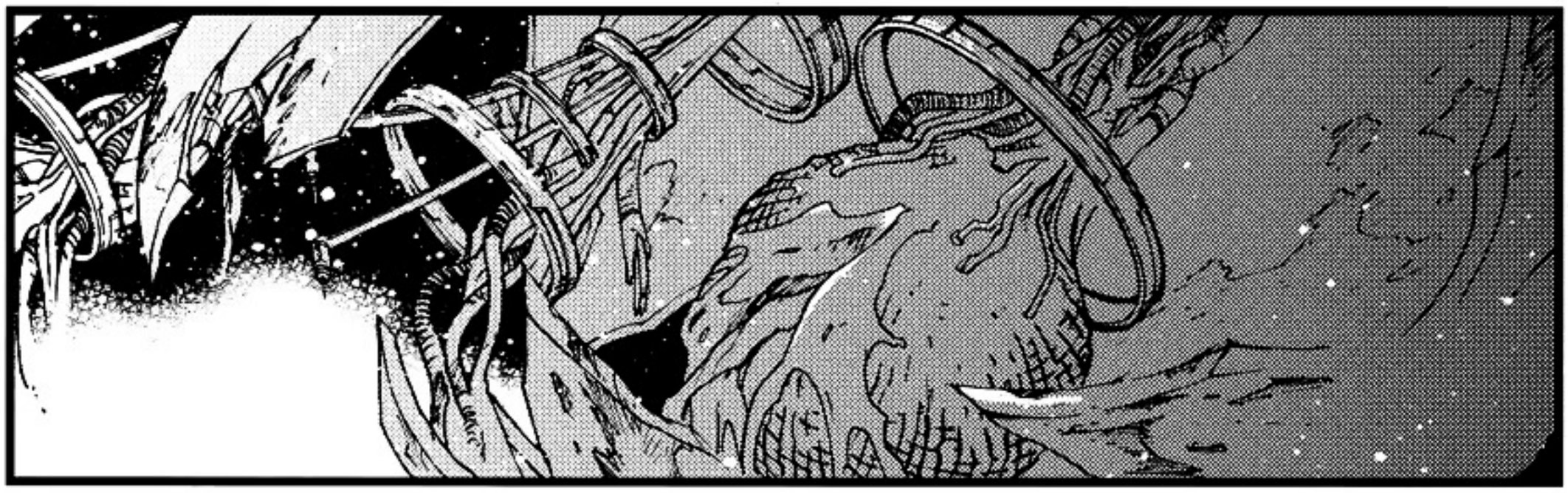


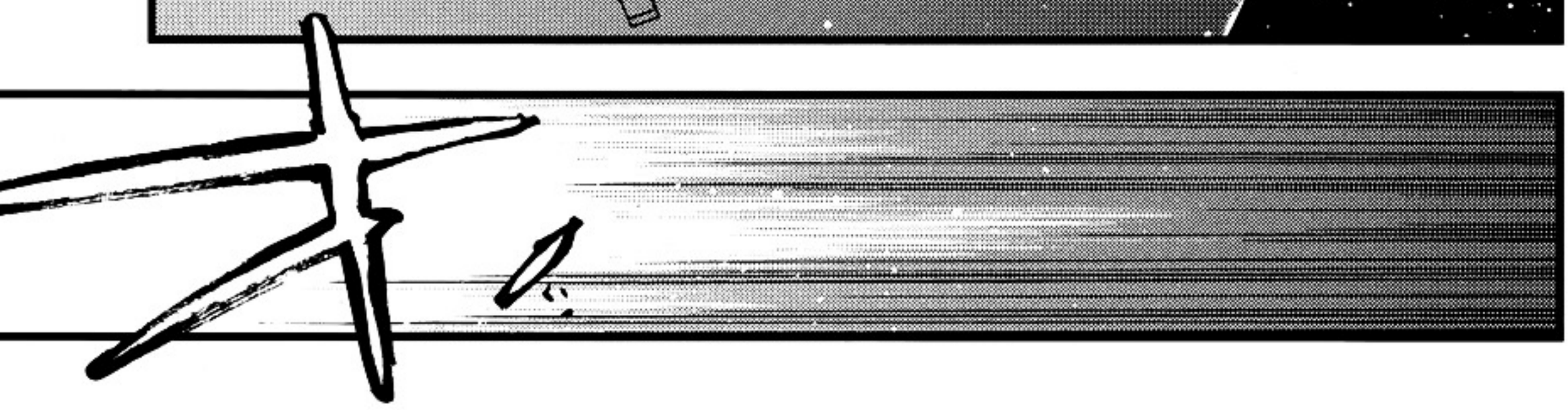
#02. OVERKILL / END



AH...
UH...

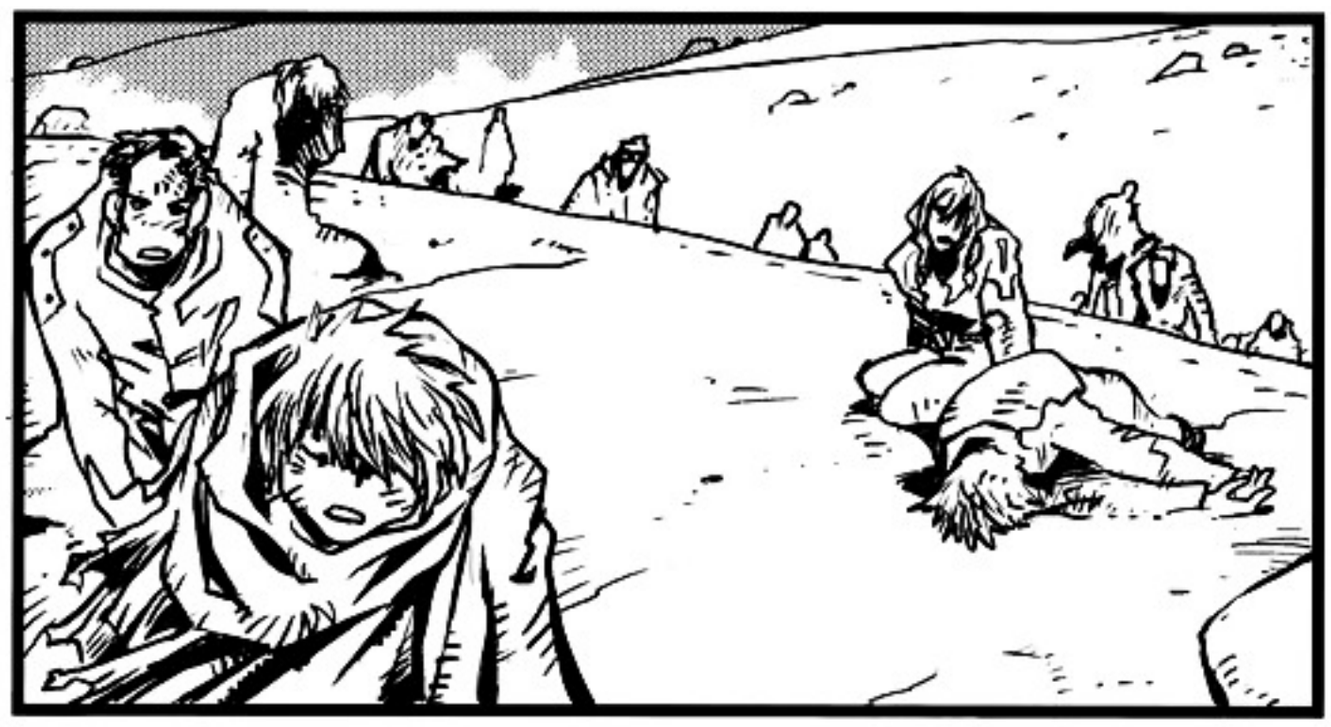
#03. SIDE BY SIDE

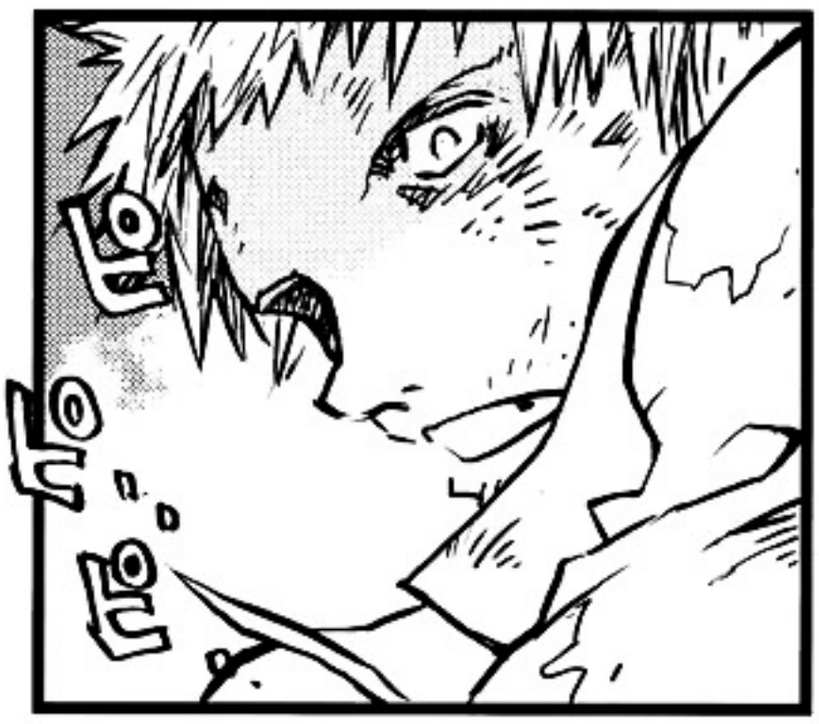




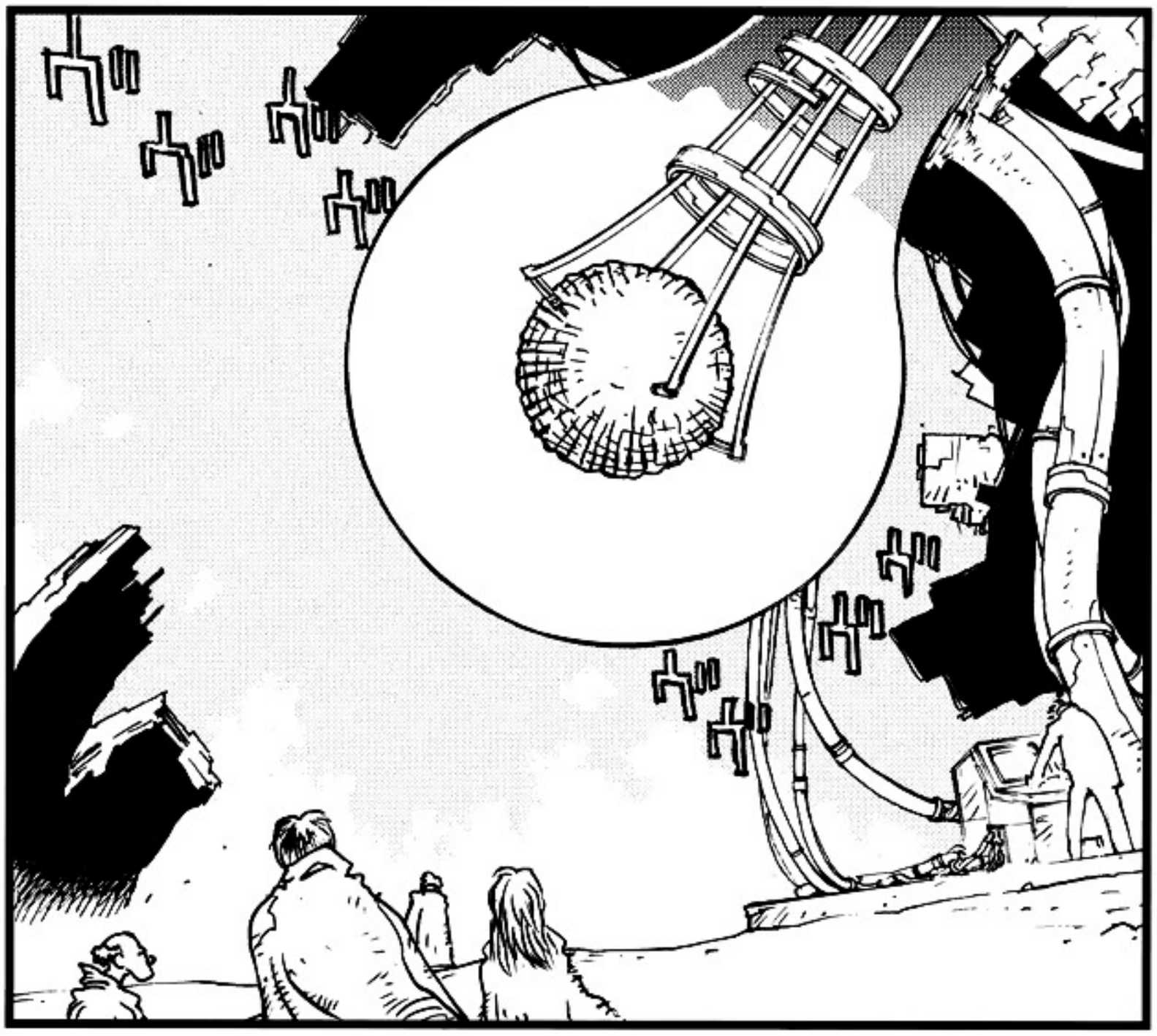
WE DID IT!
!!
THERE HE IS!
...WAIT, NO!
THE READINGS AREN'T DROPPING!

HE WAS ABLE TO COUNTER THE VOLLEYS FROM OUR PROTON CANNONS.
THAT CLEVER BASTARD!



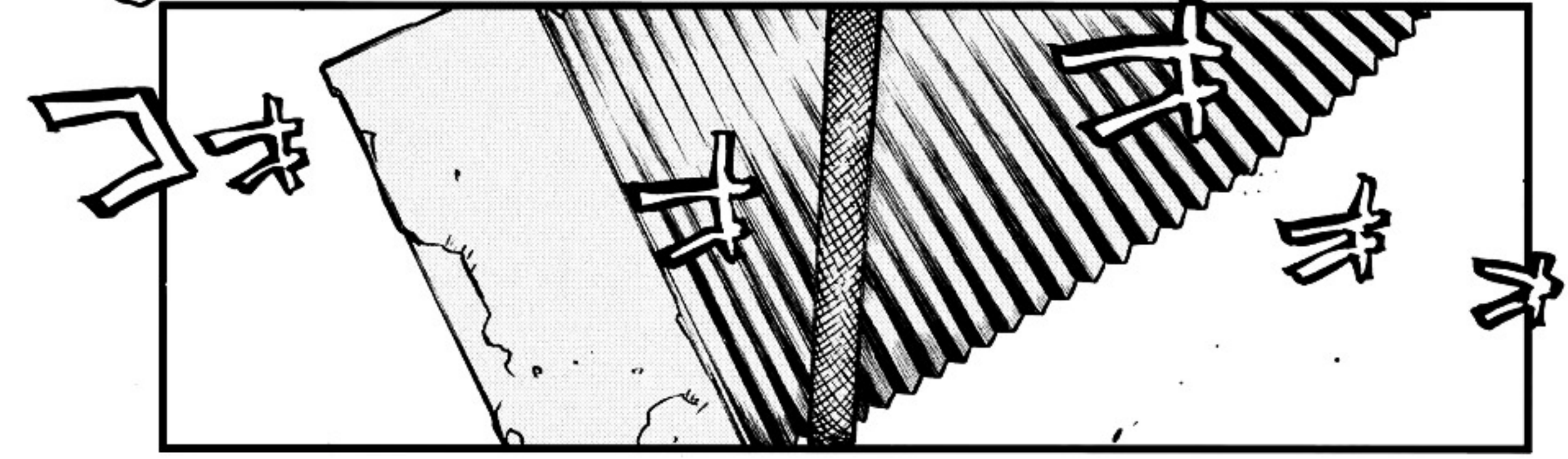

NO
NO

HUMMM



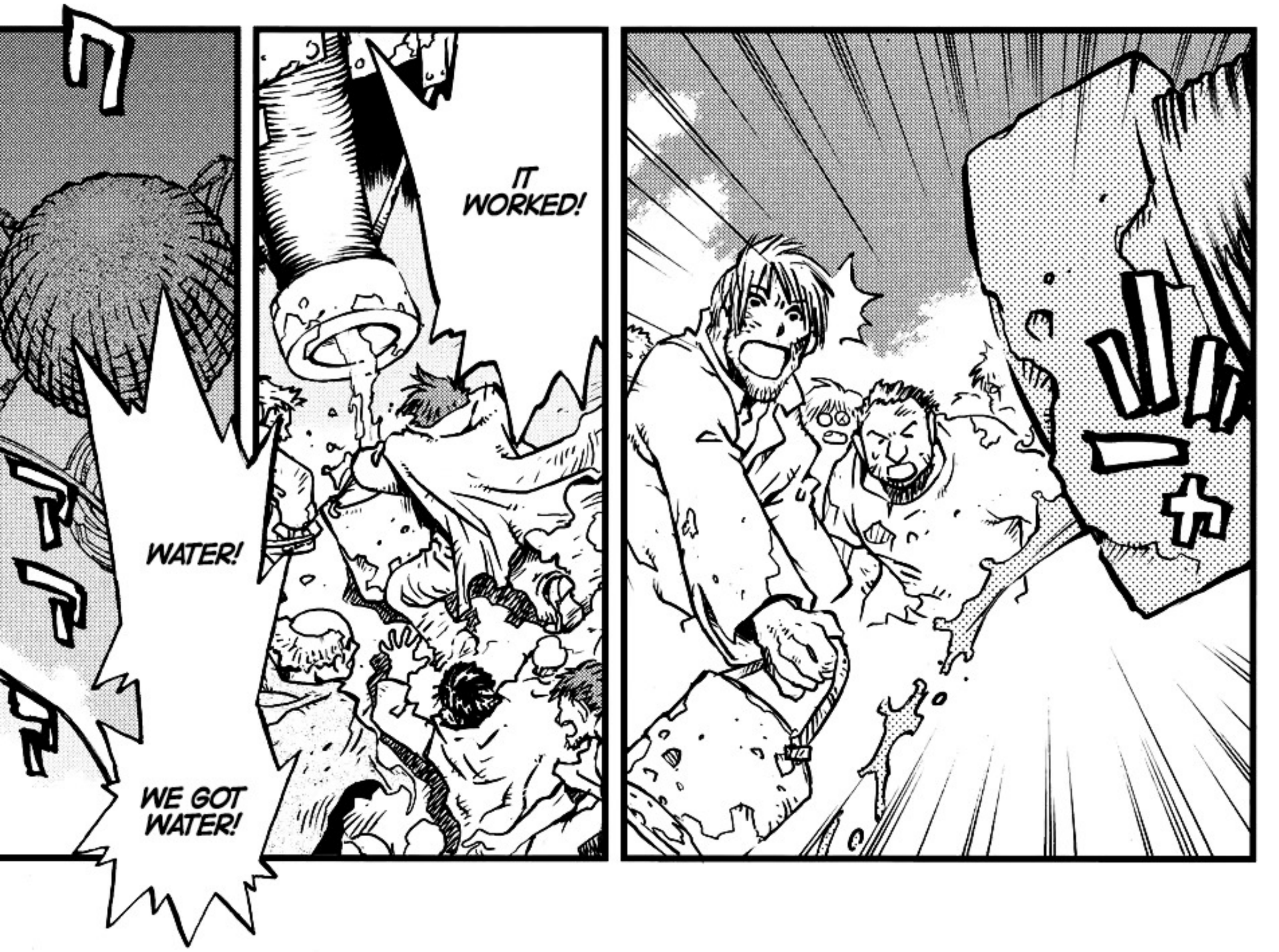
...WORK THIS TIME...

PLEASE...



WATER!
WE GOT WATER!

IT WORKED!



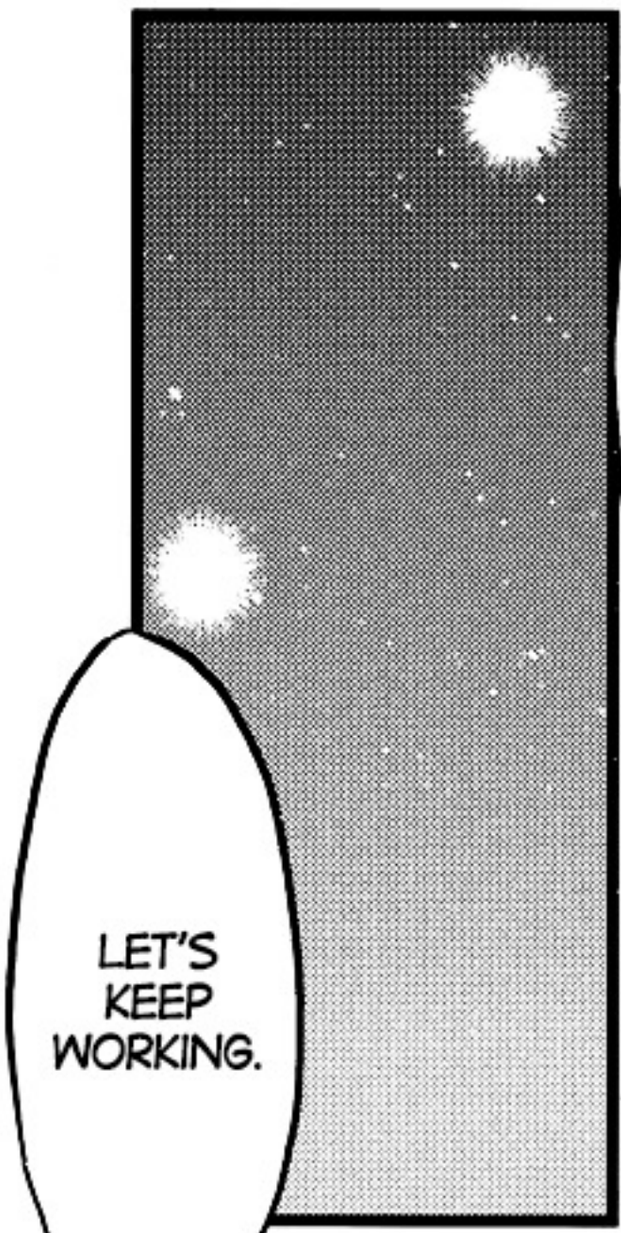
MR. VANCE...

...WHAT ARE THOSE?!

!!

EVERY TIME THE FUSED ENTITY SHAKES...

...THESE CRYSTALLINE OBJECTS COME OUT.



MAMA!
MAMAAA!
10

LAURA!
I'M OVER HERE!
OVER HERE!
UH... HUH...
HEY, LITTLE GIRL.
DID YOU LOSE YOUR MAMA?

PLEASE, STAY CLOSE TO ME FROM NOW ON!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

I'M SO RELIEVED!

...DID YOU...

...JUST POPPED UP IN MY HEAD.

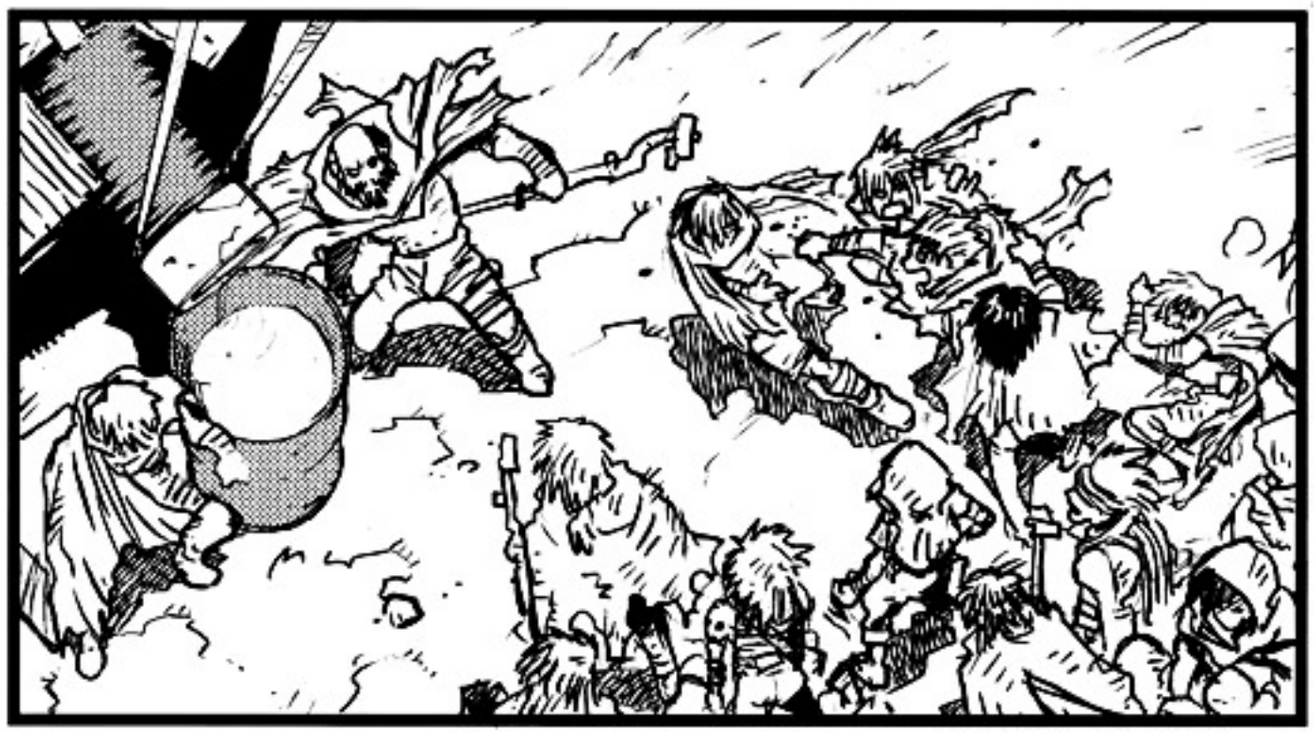
EXACTLY!

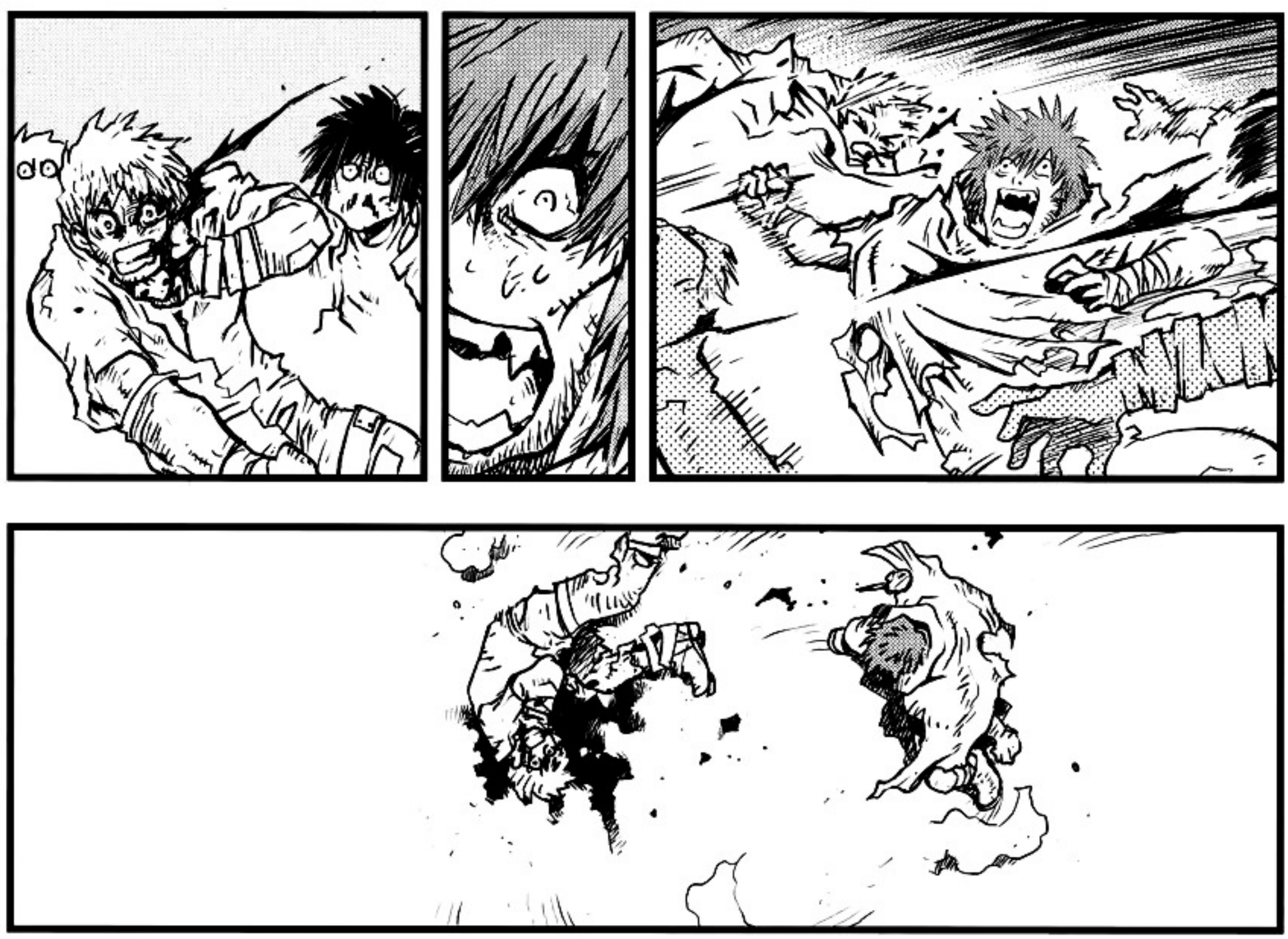
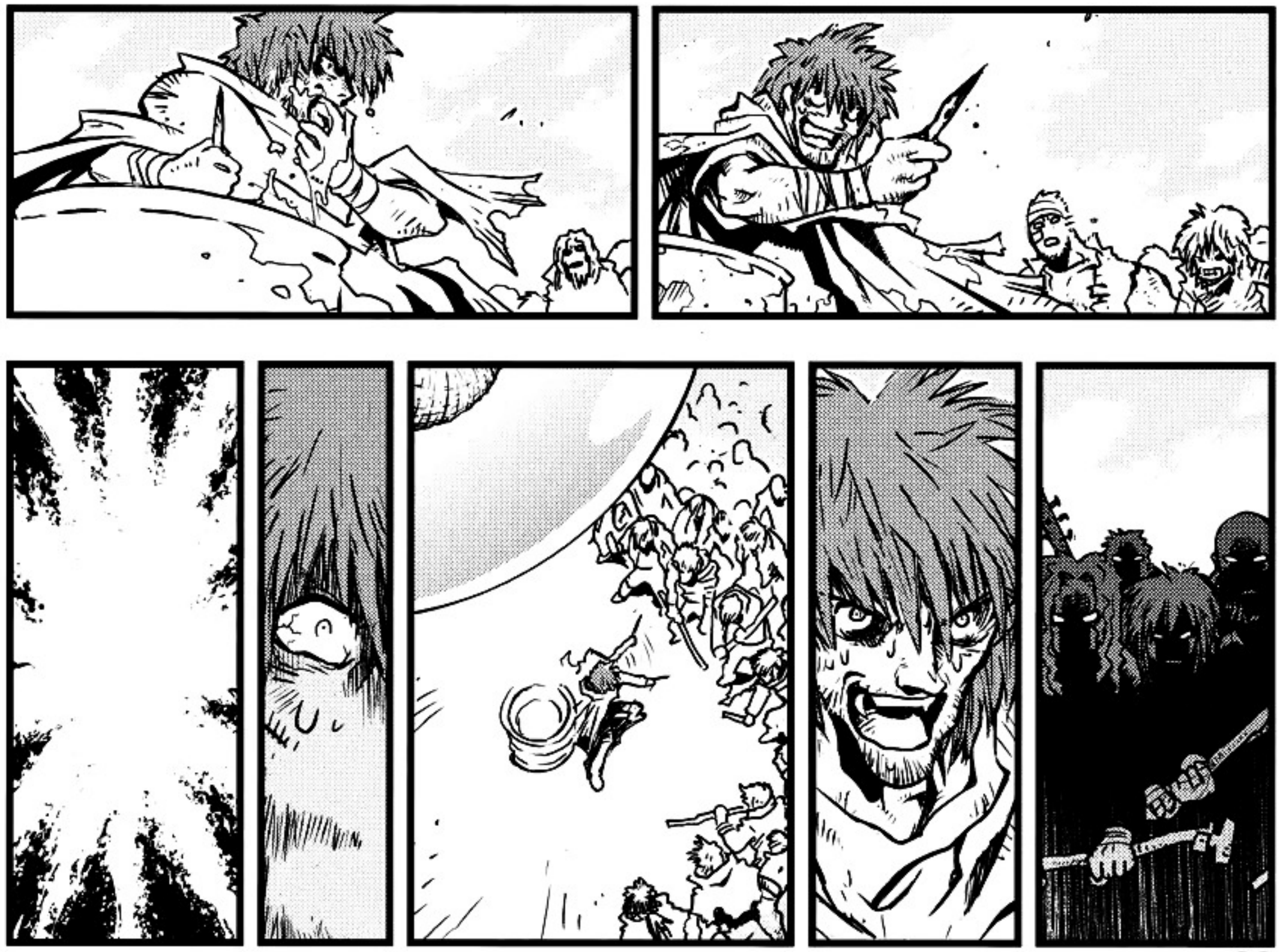
IT WAS LIKE... THAT LITTLE GIRL'S THOUGHTS...

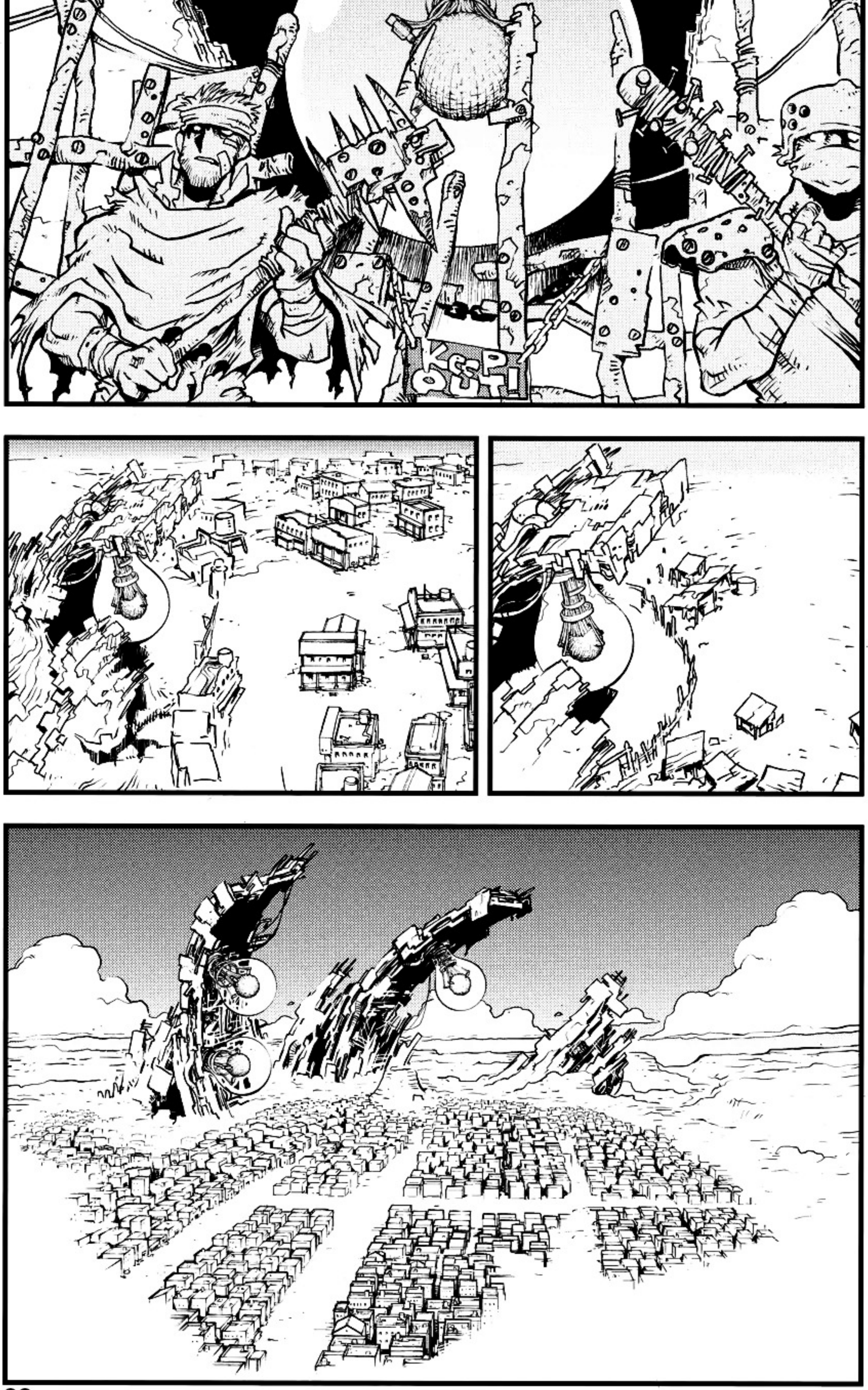
DID YOU FEEL THAT?

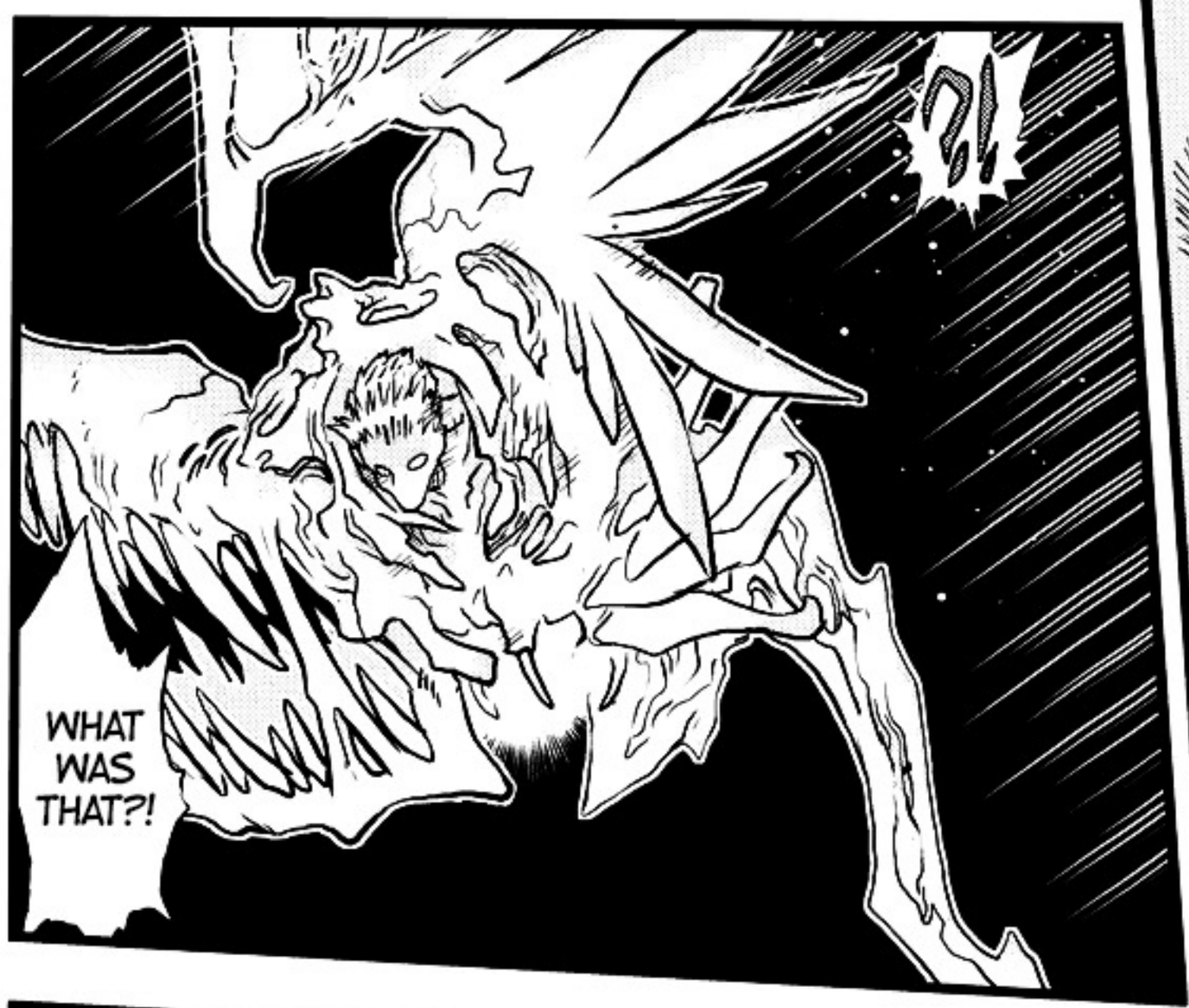
YOU FELT IT *TOO?!*

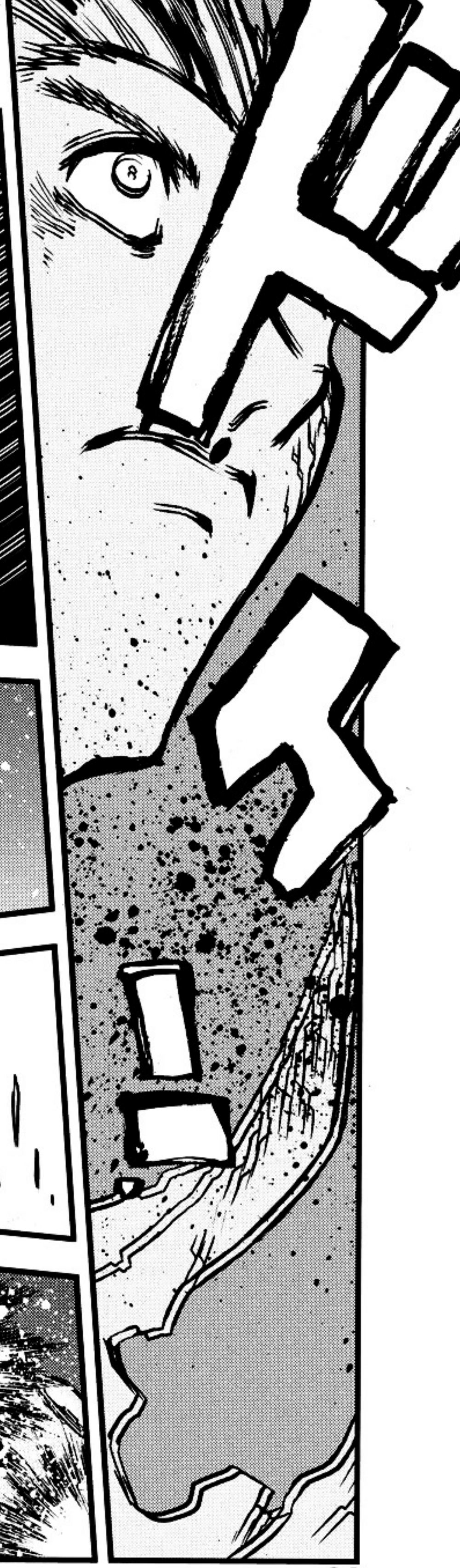
LOOKS LIKE...
...WE WEREN'T THE ONLY ONES WHO FELT IT.




KEEP OUT!


?!
WHAT WAS THAT?!



HE'S PREVENTING HIS OWN EGO FROM BEING SWALLOWED UP AND SCATTERED BY THE ENORMOUS SHARED CON-SCIOUSNESS.

THERE'S A REASON WHY KNIVES KEEPS HIMSELF SEPARATE FROM THE FUSED ENTITIES.

AND YET...

...
...

SO DON'T GIVE UP! KEEP TRYING TO COMMUNICATE!

WE, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAVE THE ADVAN-TAGE OF BEING DIRECTLY CON-NECTED.

...OF HOW HUMANS HAVE EXPLOITED AND NEGLECTED THEM FOR SO LONG.

PROBABLY BECAUSE...

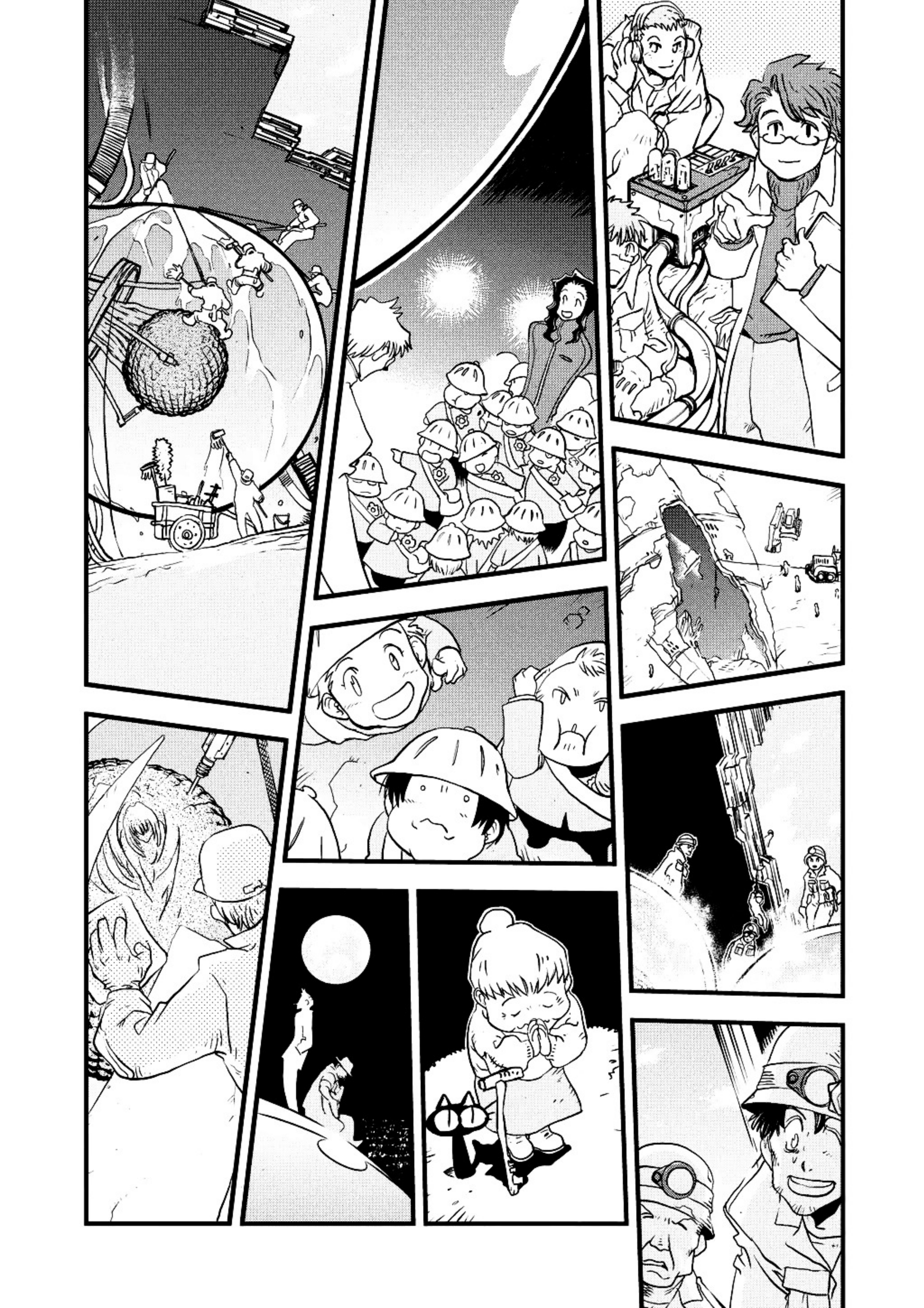
...IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE WE'RE MAKING ANY PROGRESS AT ALL.

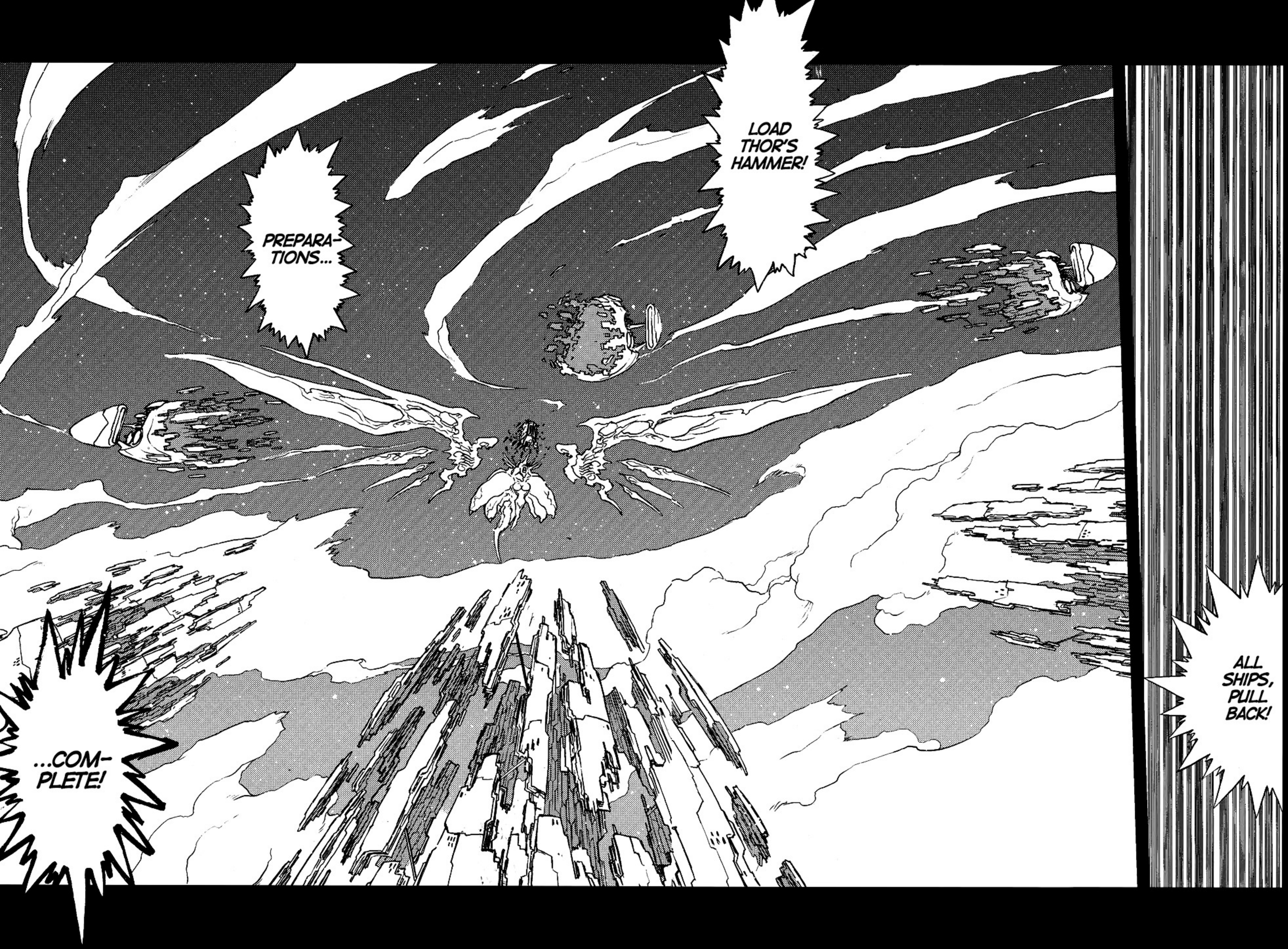
IT'S NOT EASY TO BRIDGE THE GAP OF OVER A HUNDRED YEARS' ABUSE.

...OF MORE PEOPLE.

WE NEED THE SUPPORT...

KEEP IT STEADY.
BE ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR ANY RETALIA-TION.




LOAD THOR'S HAMMER!
PREPARA-TIONS...
ALL SHIPS, PULL BACK!
...COM-PLETE!

#03. SIDE BY SIDE / END

OPENING THE DEFENSIVE HATCH!

#04. NEVER GIVE UP! NEVER SURRENDER!

READY TO FIRE...

...F-CLASS WAR-HEAD...

SHIELDS UP!

PRE-PARING FOR THE SHOCK WAVE!

...THOR'S HAMMER!

WAIT!

BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP

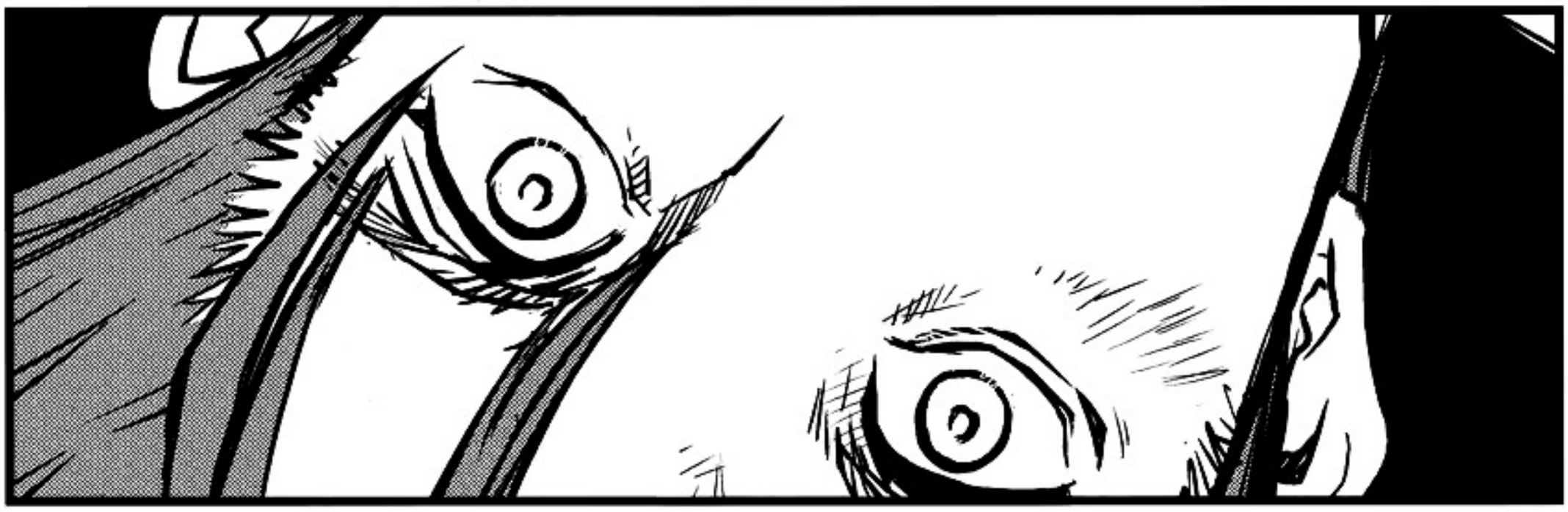
JUST GIVE US A LITTLE MORE TIME!

THE POWER OF SEVEN F-CLASS WARHEADS WILL BE UNLEASHED ON KNIVES.

WE WILL BE BURNED UP BY THE HEAT ALONG WITH THE PEOPLE ON THE SURFACE!

VANCE! YOU ARE TO LEAVE THE AIRSPACE IMMEDIATELY! THAT'S AN ORDER!
WE WILL NOT STOP THE ATTACK AT THE COST OF YOUR SQUAD-RON.
THIS OPERATION HAS SS PRIORITY!
I REPEAT! LEAVE THE AIRSPACE IMMEDI-ATELY!

TO THE...
...VERY END!
NO!
NOTH-ING!
ズ
ズ
ズ
ズ
ズズズ
KEEP GOING!
ONE MORE TIME!
NO MATTER WHAT!
DON'T GIVE UP!
ANY-THING YET?!
...
...



WHERE...
...AM I?

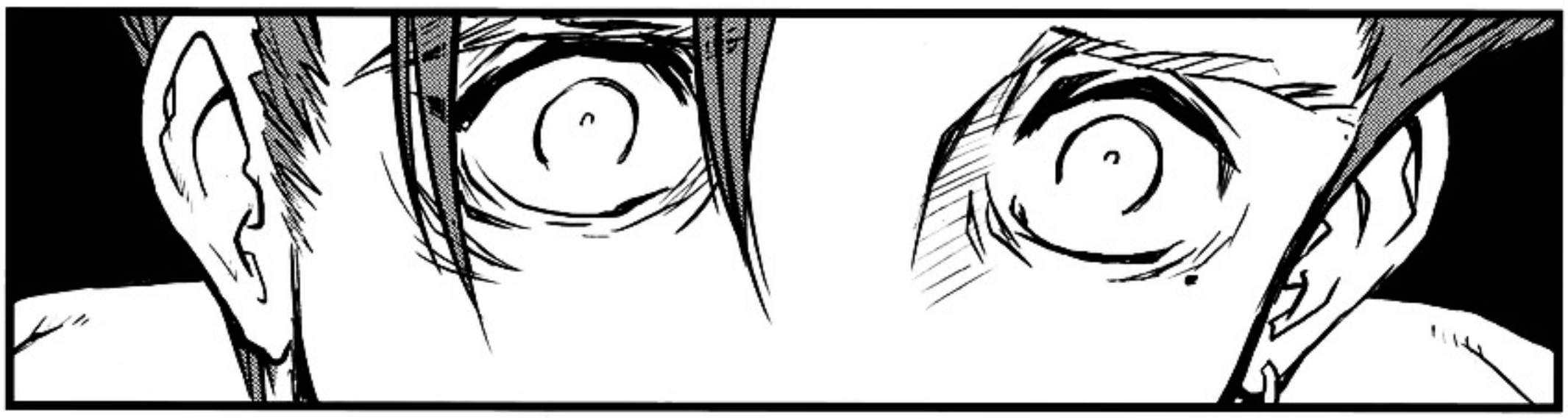
HUH...
AH
AAH
AAAA

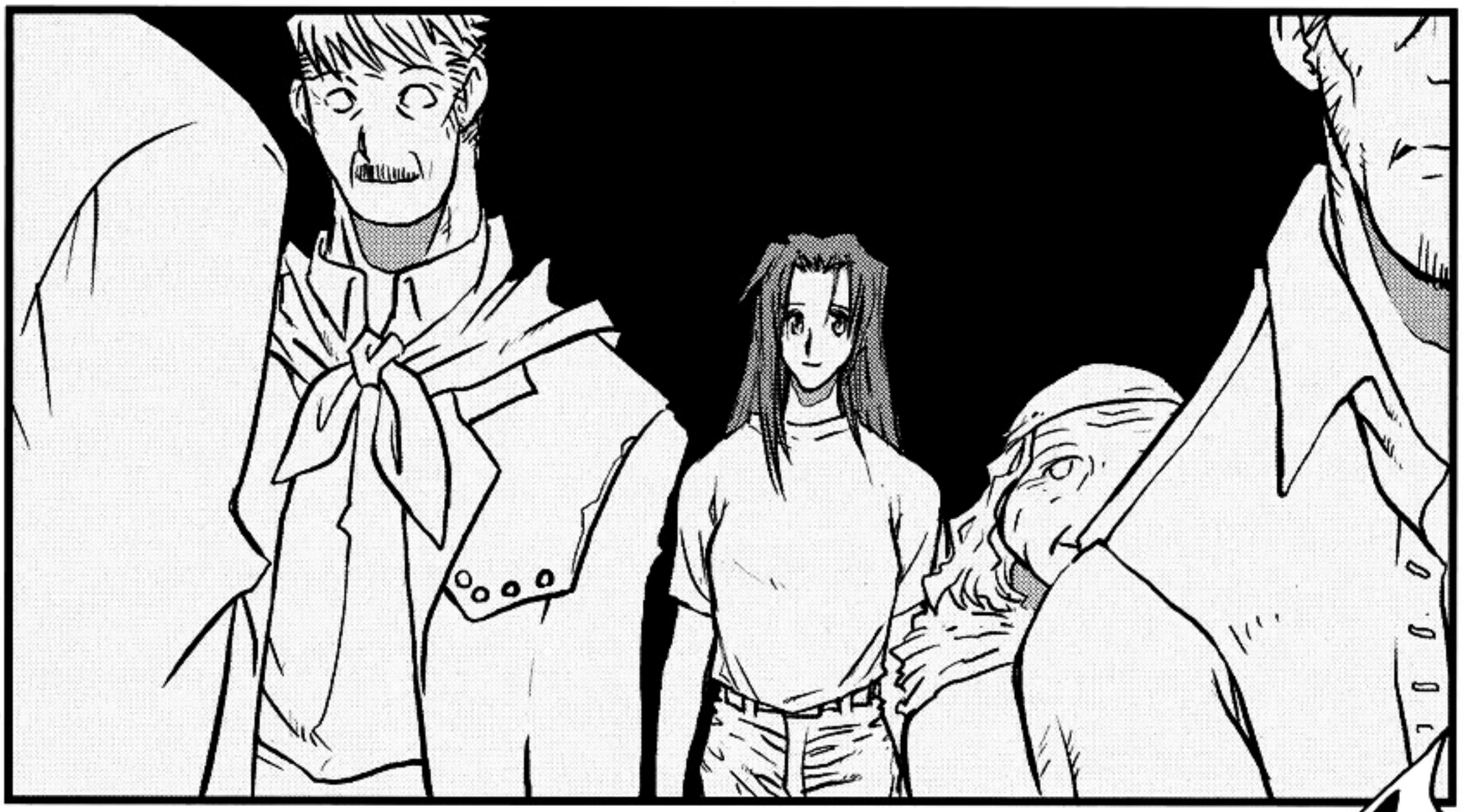
WOLFWOOD!
!!

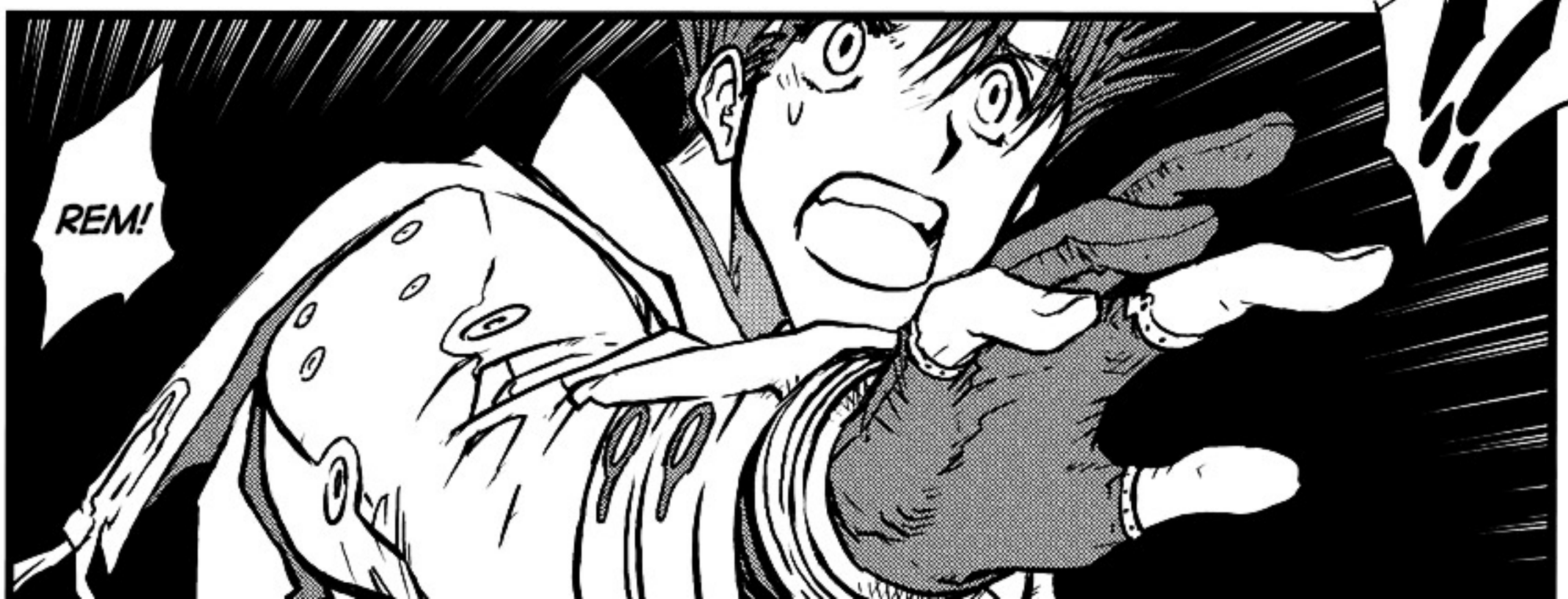
EMILIO!
DOC!

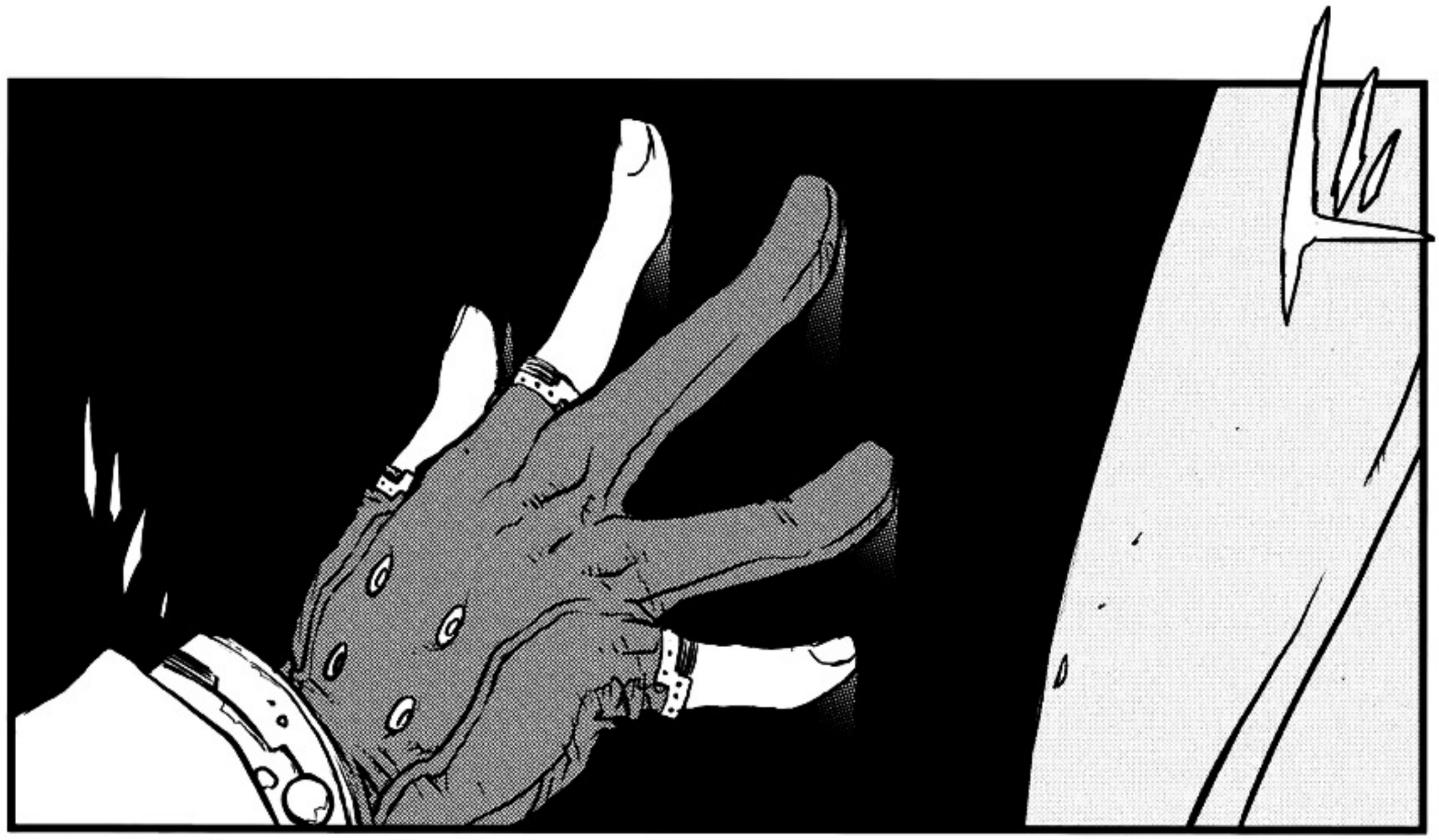
YOU'RE...

EVERY-ONE...









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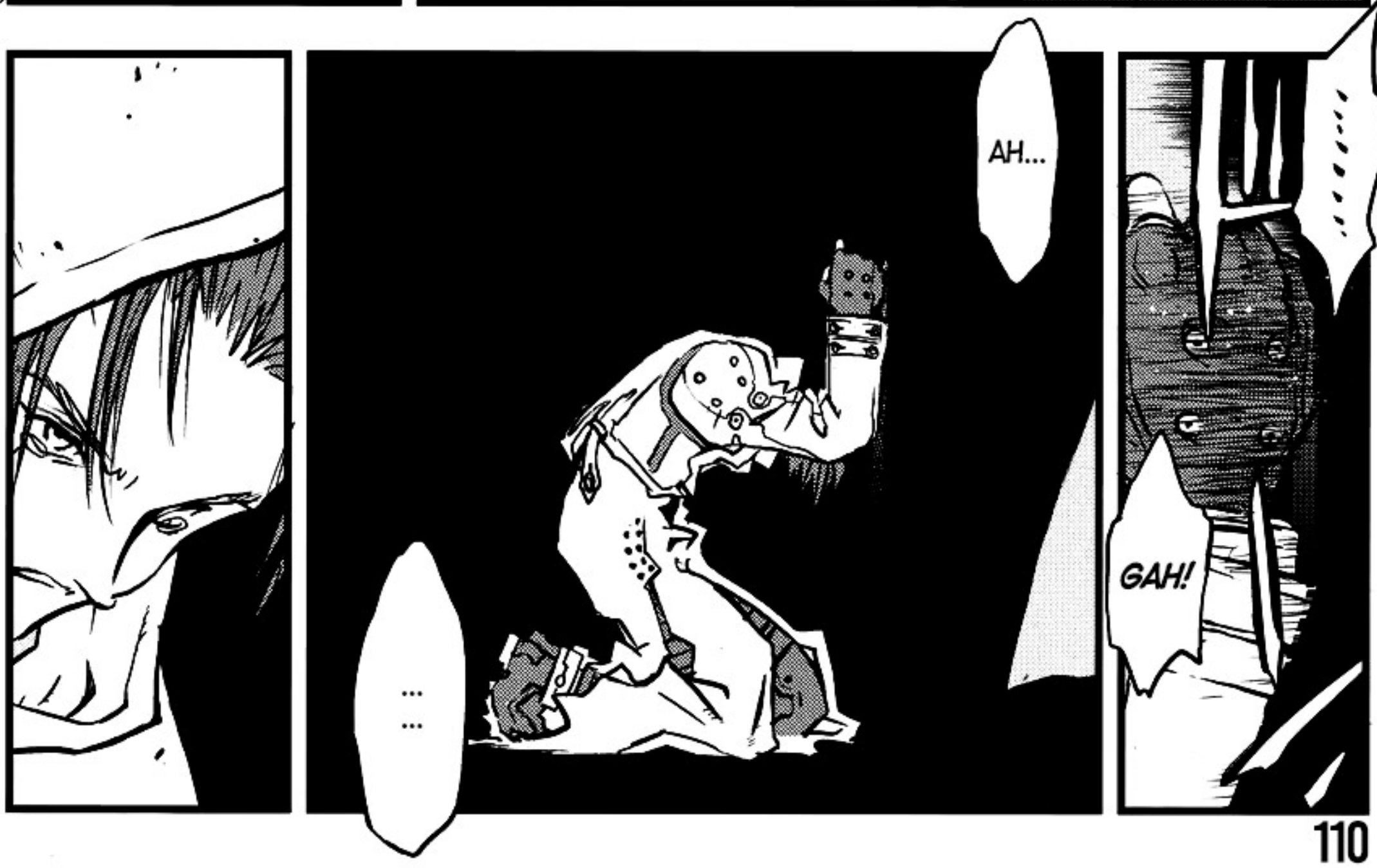
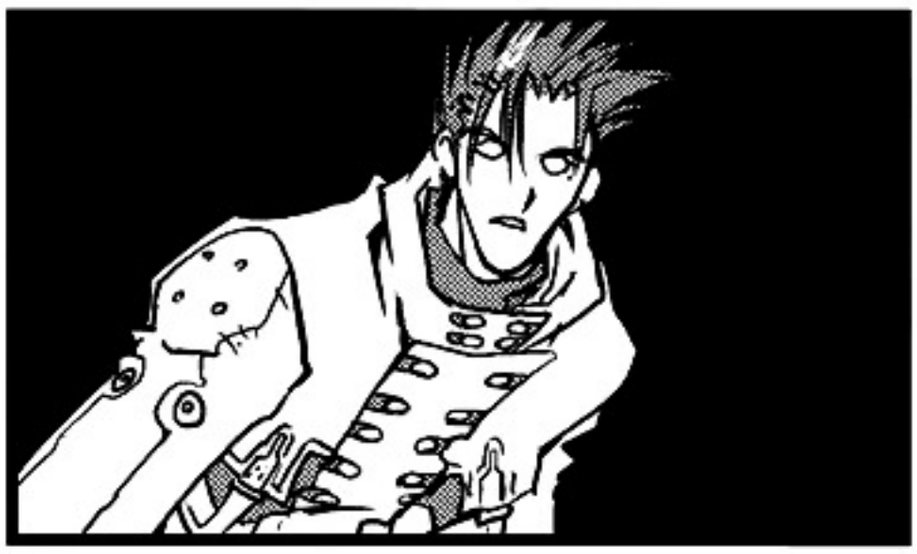
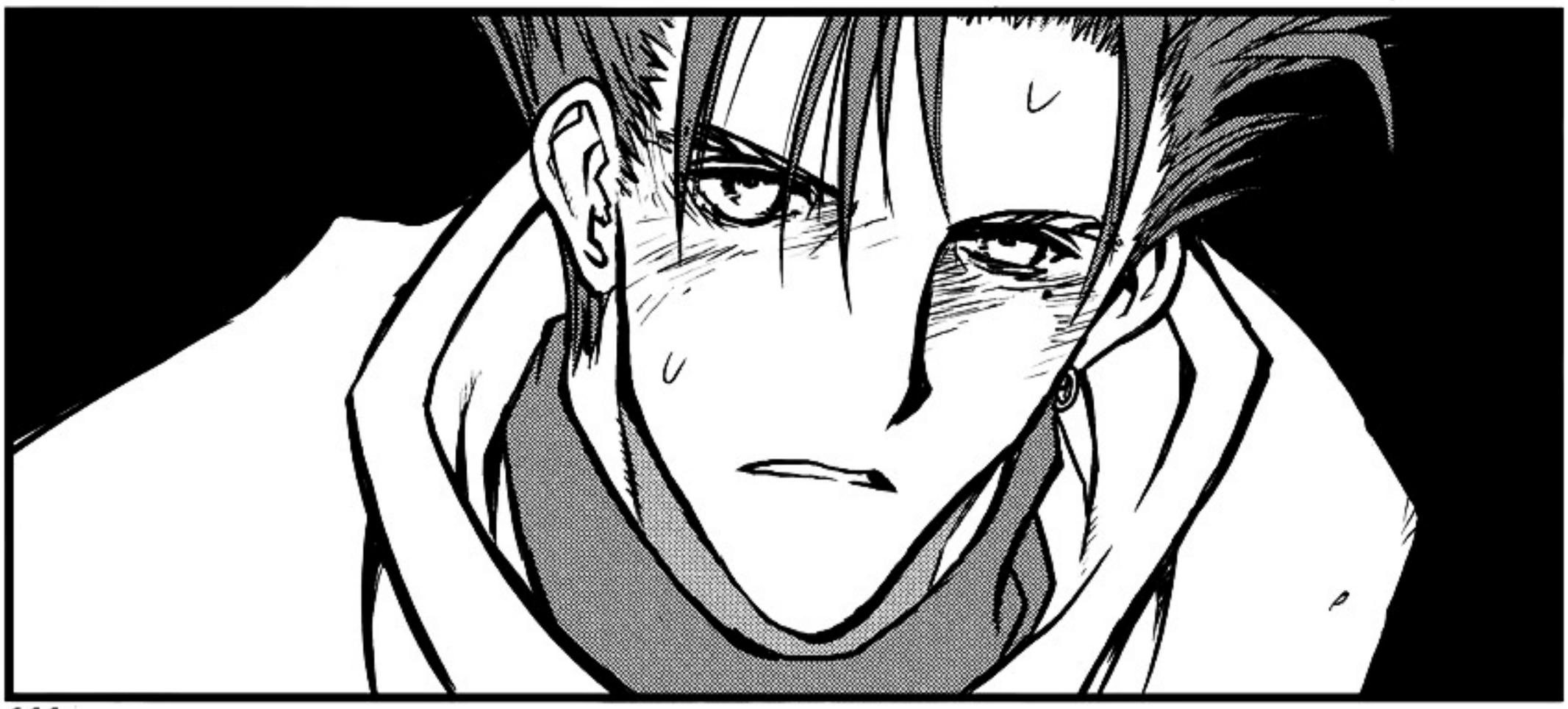

GAH!
AH...
...
...



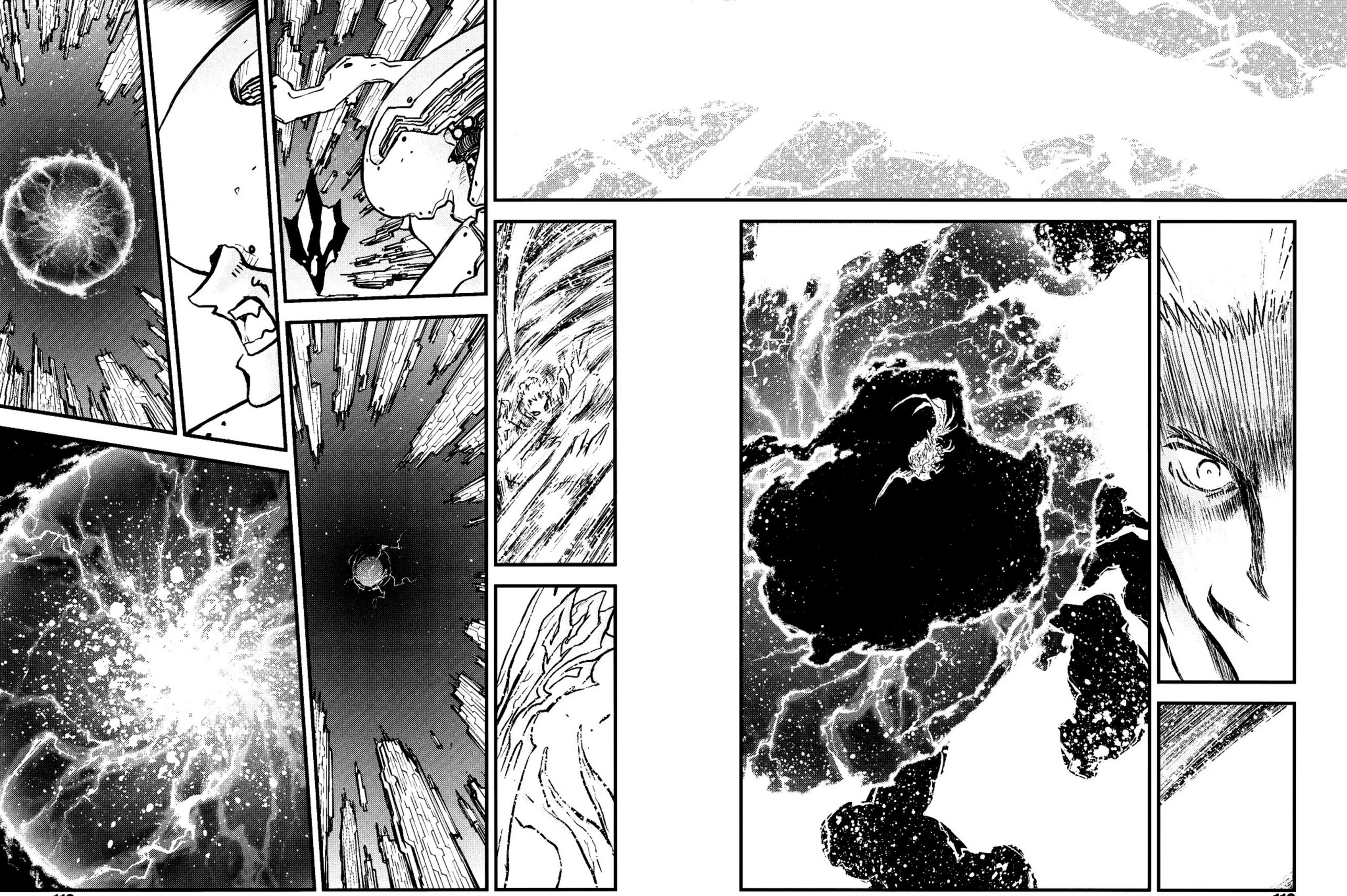


ANY-THING ?!
AGAIN!
ONE MORE TIME!
TRY AGAIN!

OKAY! HERE WE GO!
NEXT STEP!
LOOK!
AH!
THERE'S A SMALL BREAK IN THE BOND!

THAT MEANS THEY'VE ENTERED THE FINAL SE-QUENCE.
DAMN-IT!
SHIT!
THE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
ENGINES, FULL POWER!
THEY STOPPED SENDING US WARN-INGS!

...
...
!!
SQUEEZE
FIRING IN...
...FIVE SEC-ONDS!
I'M SO SORRY, MILLY.
PLEASE, DON'T SAY THAT, MERYL!
3...
...I WILL PULL THIS TRIGGER AND COMMIT A GREAT SIN.
1...
PLEASE...
GRANT ME YOUR BLESSING.
2...
BUT THIS...
THIS WILL BE A CRUCIAL MOMENT FOR THE HISTORY OF HUMANKIND IN THIS GALAXY.
FIRE!
5...
O, LORD...
4...



WHA-

WHAT HAP-PENED?!

?!

A GATE IMME-DIATELY OPENED OUTSIDE OF THE SHIP'S GUN PORT THE MOMENT WE FIRED!

...!

THESE READ-INGS...!

IT LOOKS LIKE THOR'S HAMMER WAS FIRED RIGHT BACK AT US!

...AT THE *SAME* TIME?!

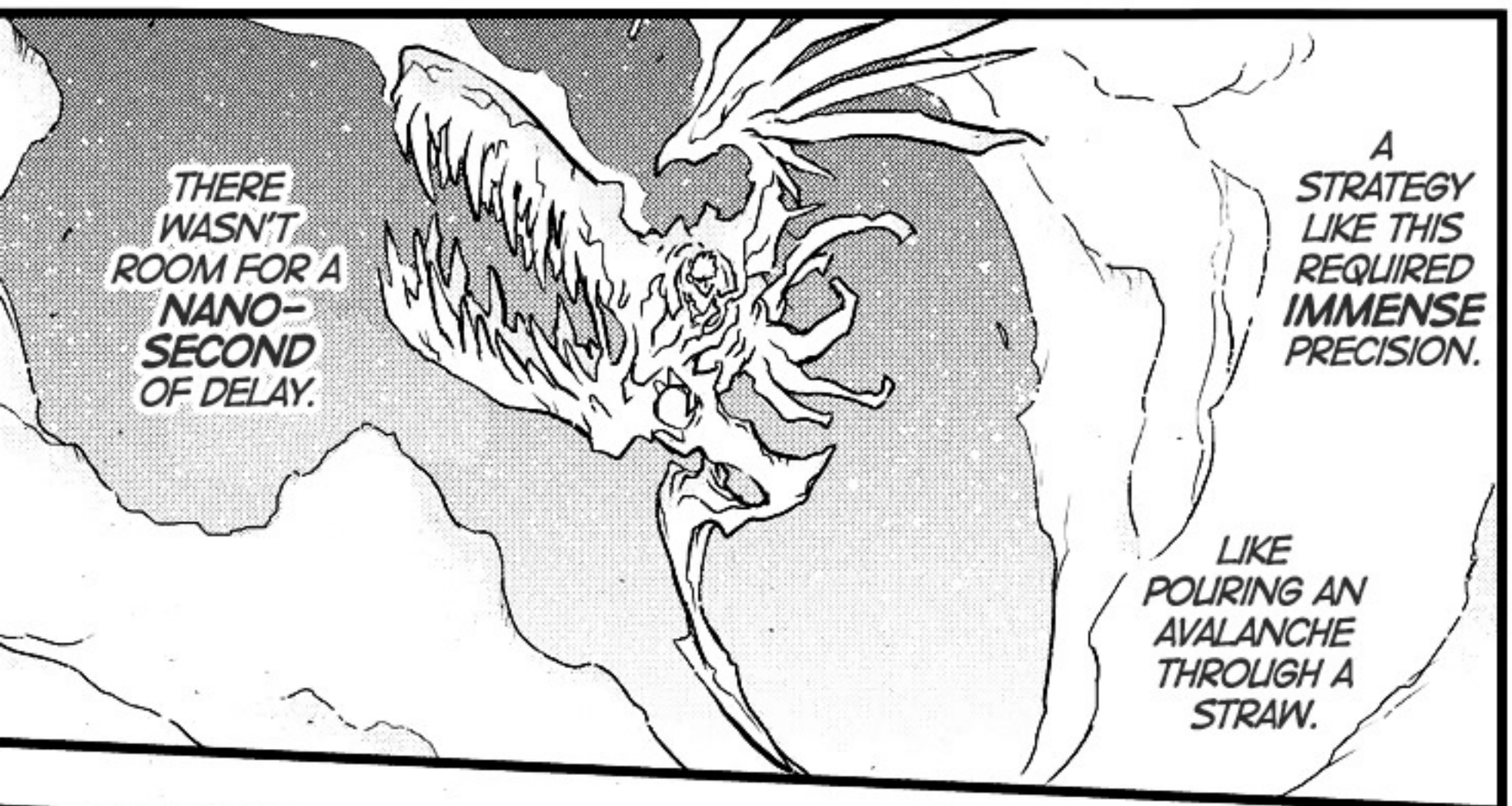
THIS HAP-PENED TO ALL SEVEN SHIPS...

...WE WOULD HAVE BEEN *COM-PLETELY* DIS-INTEGRATED!

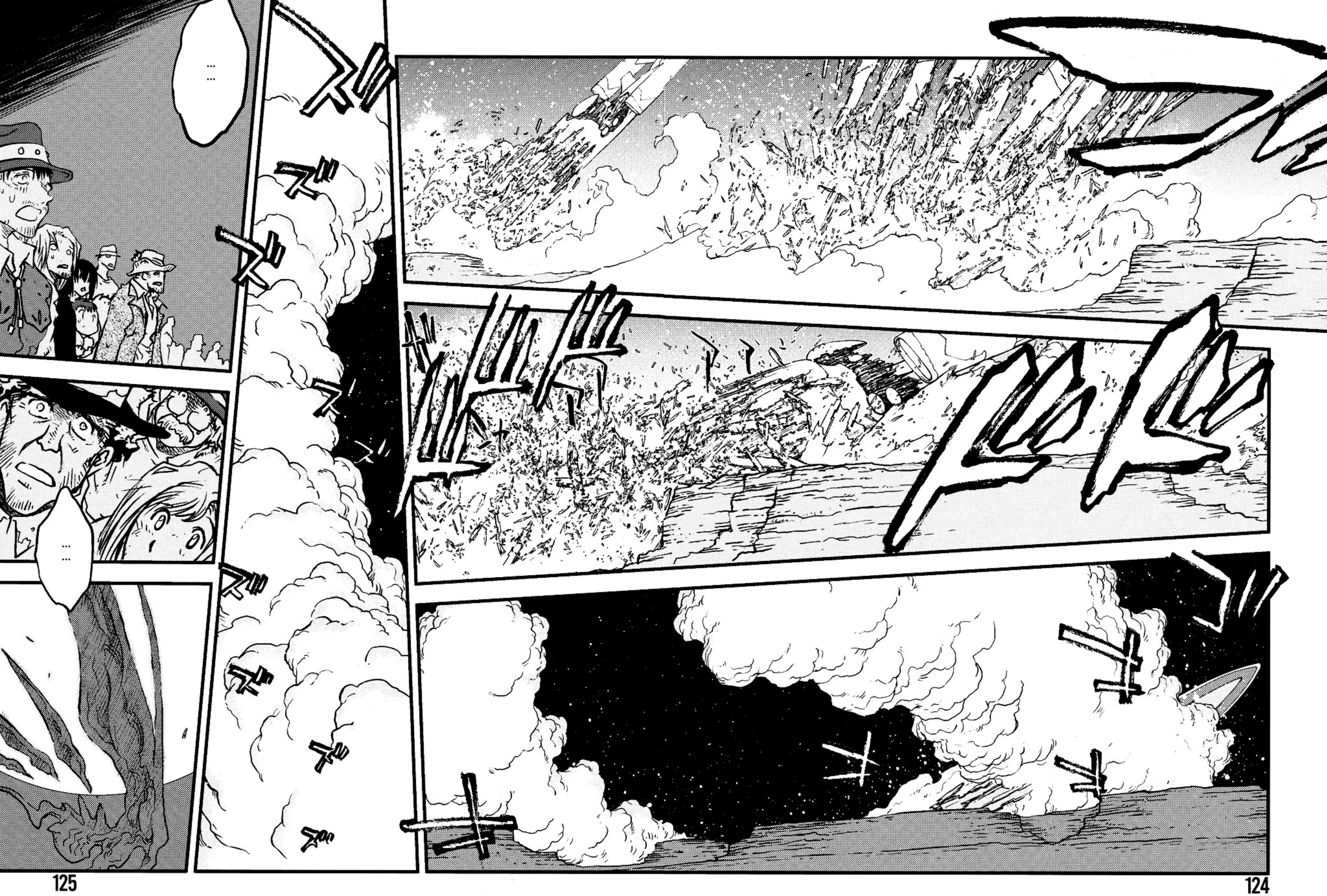
IF WE HAD USED ANY MORE ENERGY...

THE *ONLY* THING KEEPING THE SHIPS TOGETHER NOW IS OUR FORCE FIELDS.

THE WARHEADS TORE RIGHT THROUGH THE SHIPS FROM FORE TO AFT.

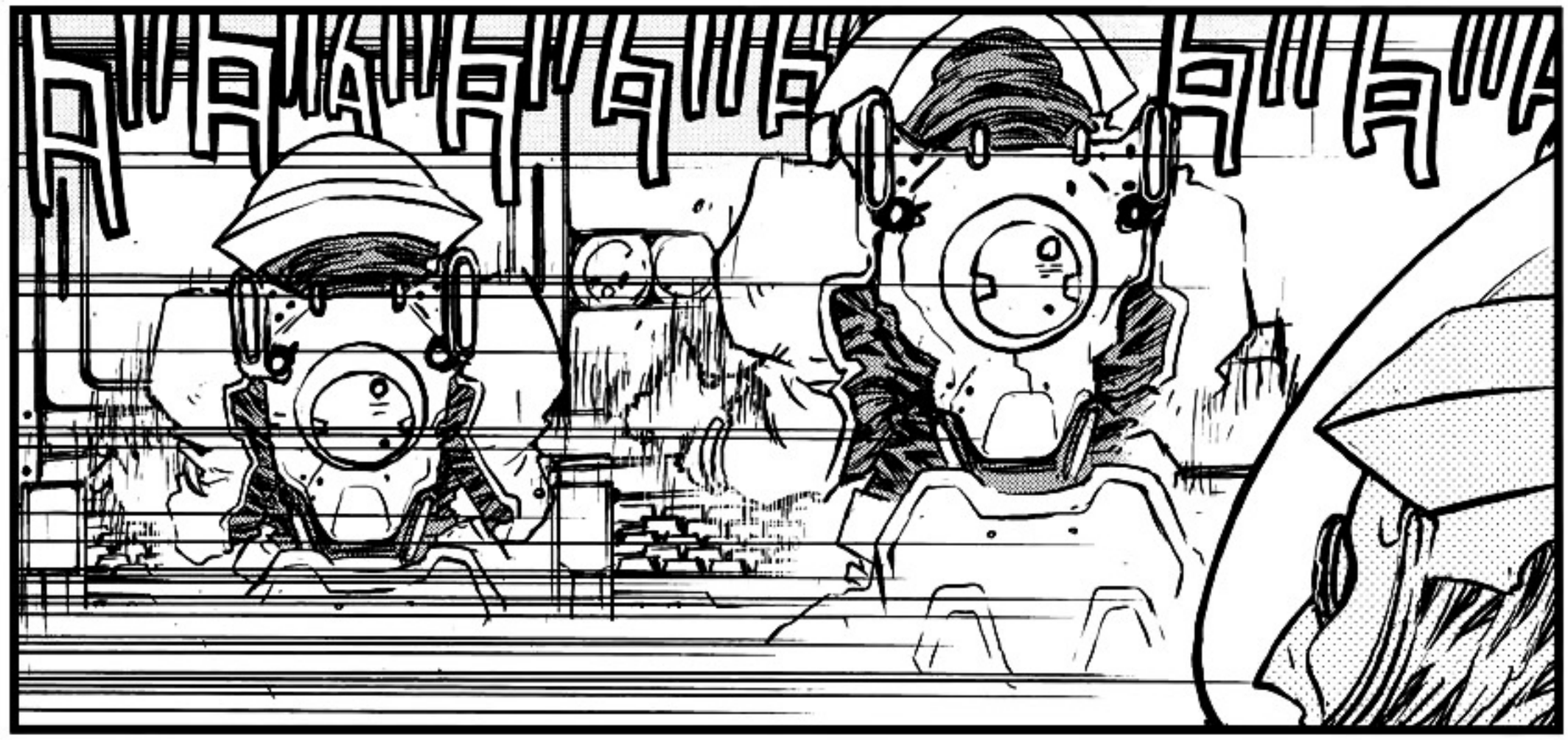

THERE WASN'T ROOM FOR A NANO-SECOND OF DELAY.
A STRATEGY LIKE THIS REQUIRED IMMENSE PRECISION.
LIKE POURING AN AVALANCHE THROUGH A STRAW.

...HE EXCEEDED ALL OUR EXPECTATIONS...
...AND LITTERLY DEFEATED US.
UNTIL THE VERY END...



AAAAAAAAHH!
EIIIAAAAHH!
AH
AAAH...
...WHAT HAPPENED ?!
WHAT...
SEVEN EARTH FEDERATION STATE-OF-THE-ART WARSHIPS, ALL DESTROYED AT THE SAME TIME.
WE'RE DONE.

CLICK
CLICK
CLICK



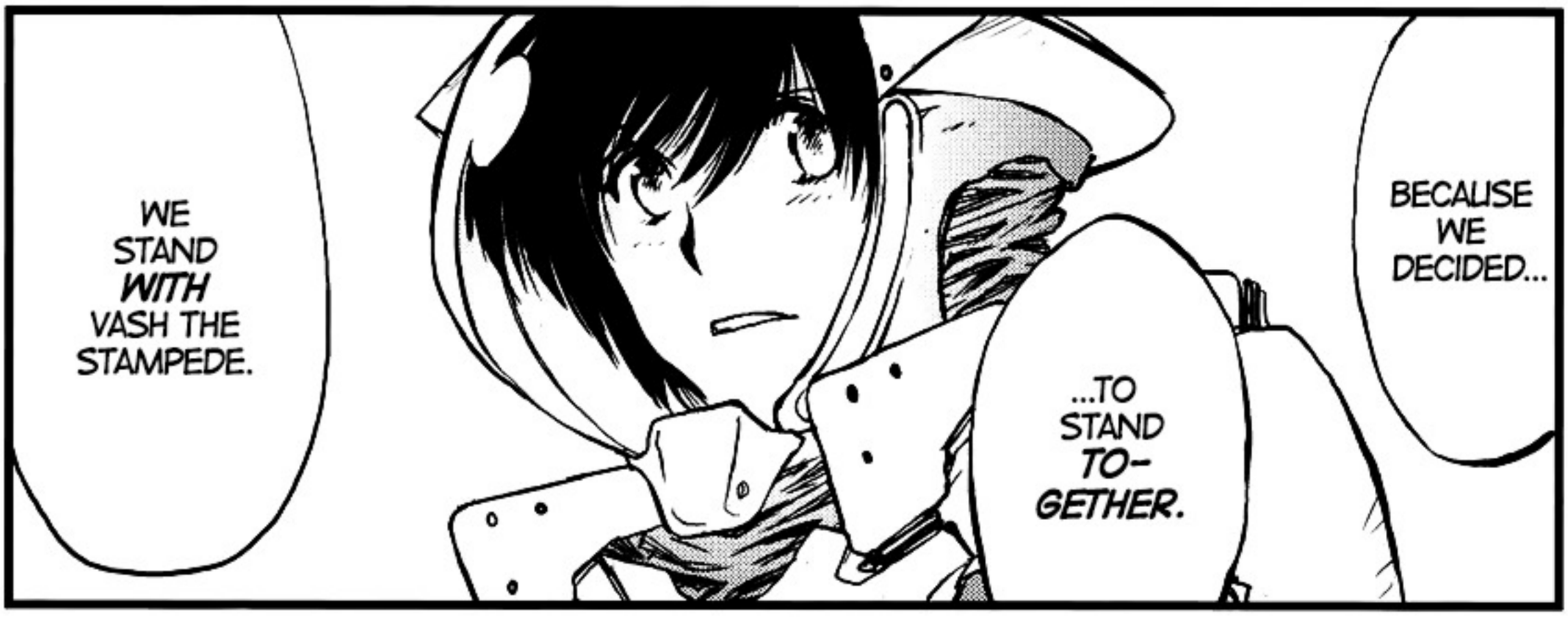
STILL, ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN.
OUR ANCESTORS DREAMED OF A PARADISE AMONG THE STARS, BUT INSTEAD FELL ONTO THIS PLANET OF SAND.

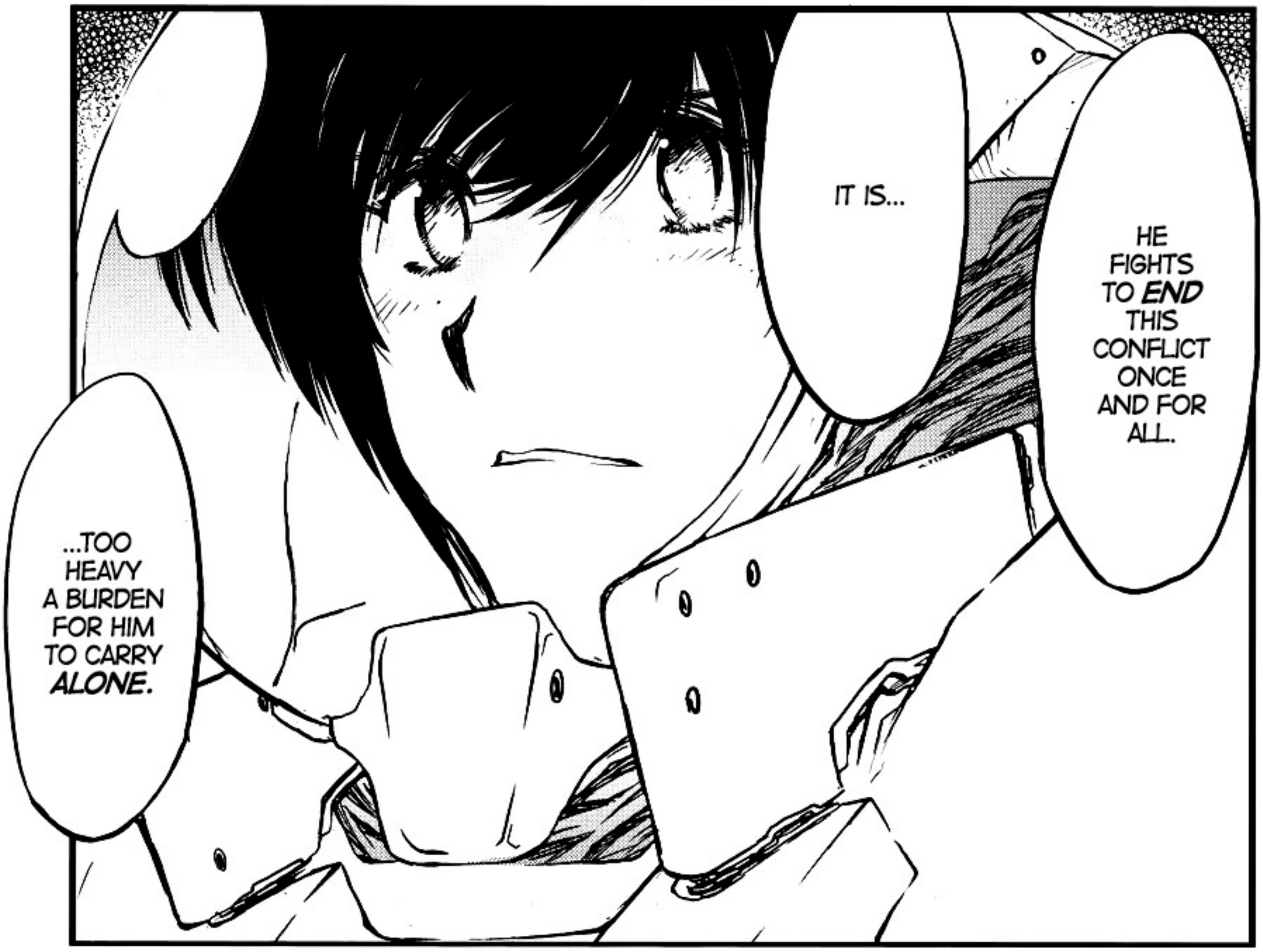
ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN.

WE'RE *STILL* ALIVE, SO LET'S SEE WHAT COMES NEXT.
WEL-COME, MR. VANCE.
IT'S A NICE PLACE, ISN'T IT?

YOU CAN'T LIVE IF YOU LET EVERY LITTLE THING GET YOU DOWN.
FACING A HARSH REALITY IS SOME-THING YOU DO HERE EVERY DAY.

HOW ARE YOU LADIES THIS *STRONG?*
MY GOOD-NESS.
HA HA HA HA
HEH... HA HA.


WE STAND *WITH* VASH THE STAMPEDE.
...TO STAND *TO-GETHER.*
BECAUSE WE DECIDED...


...TOO HEAVY A BURDEN FOR HIM TO CARRY *ALONE.*
IT IS...
HE FIGHTS TO *END* THIS CONFLICT ONCE AND FOR ALL.

CRACK

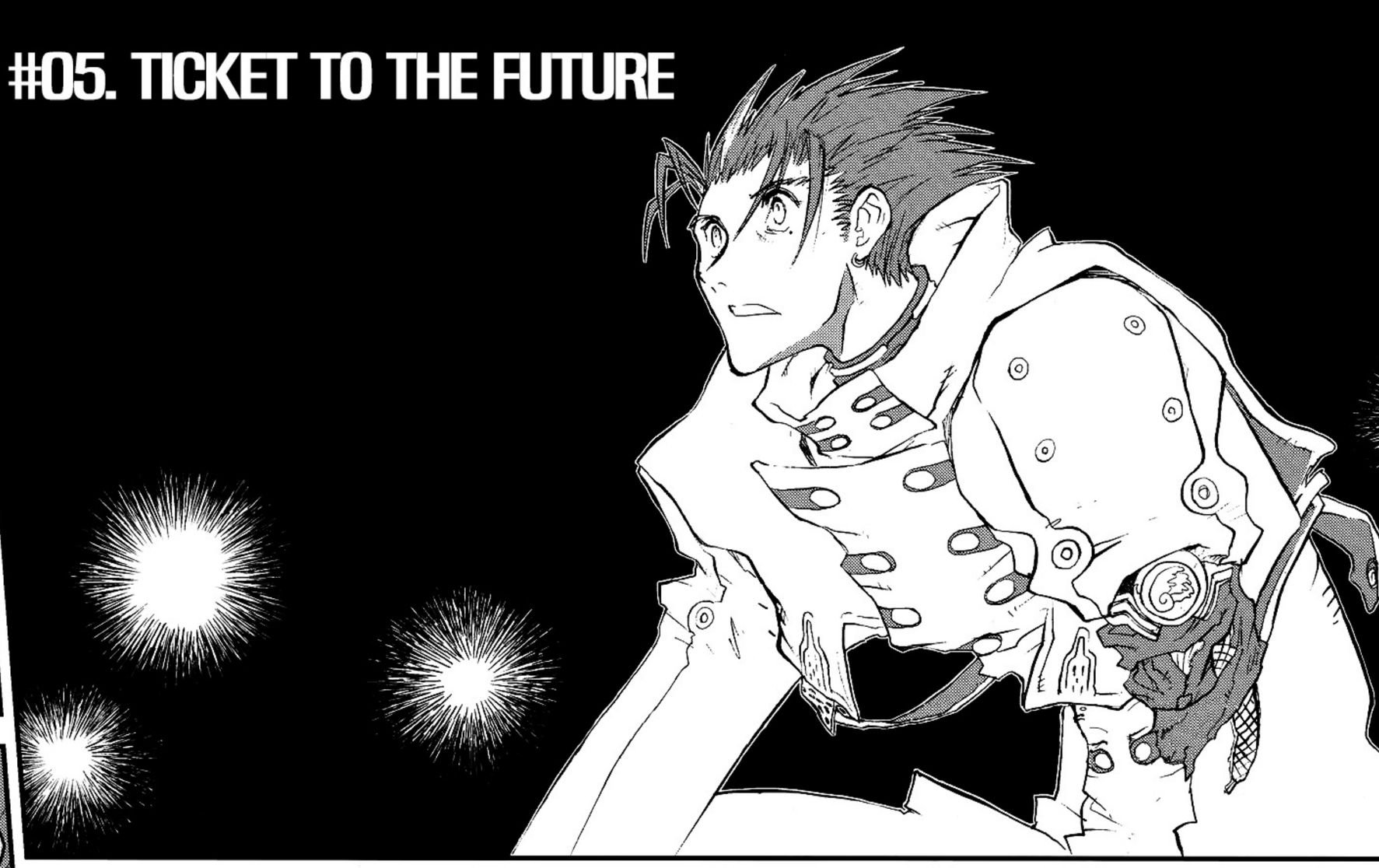
#04. NEVER GIVE UP! NEVER SURRENDER! / END

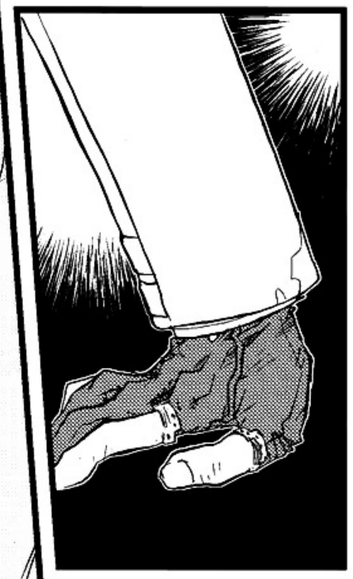
WHERE AM I GOING?

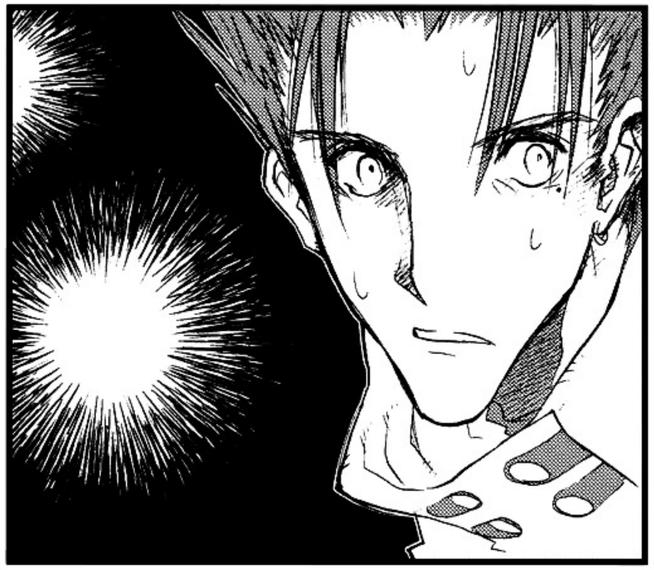
WHAT'S THERE LEFT TO SEE?

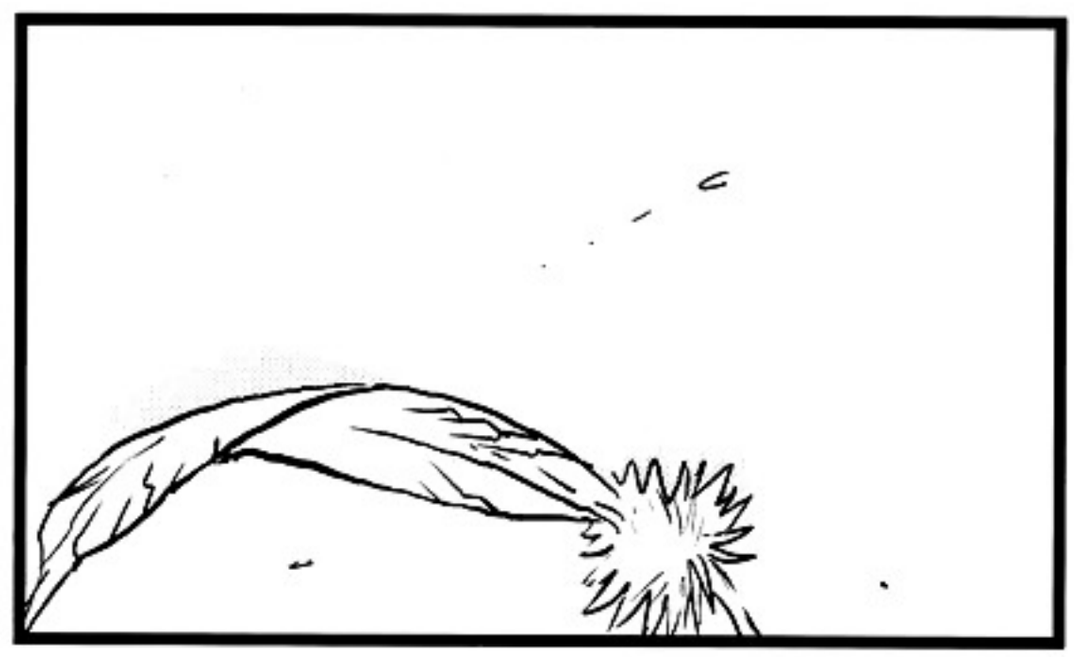
I'M STUCK...

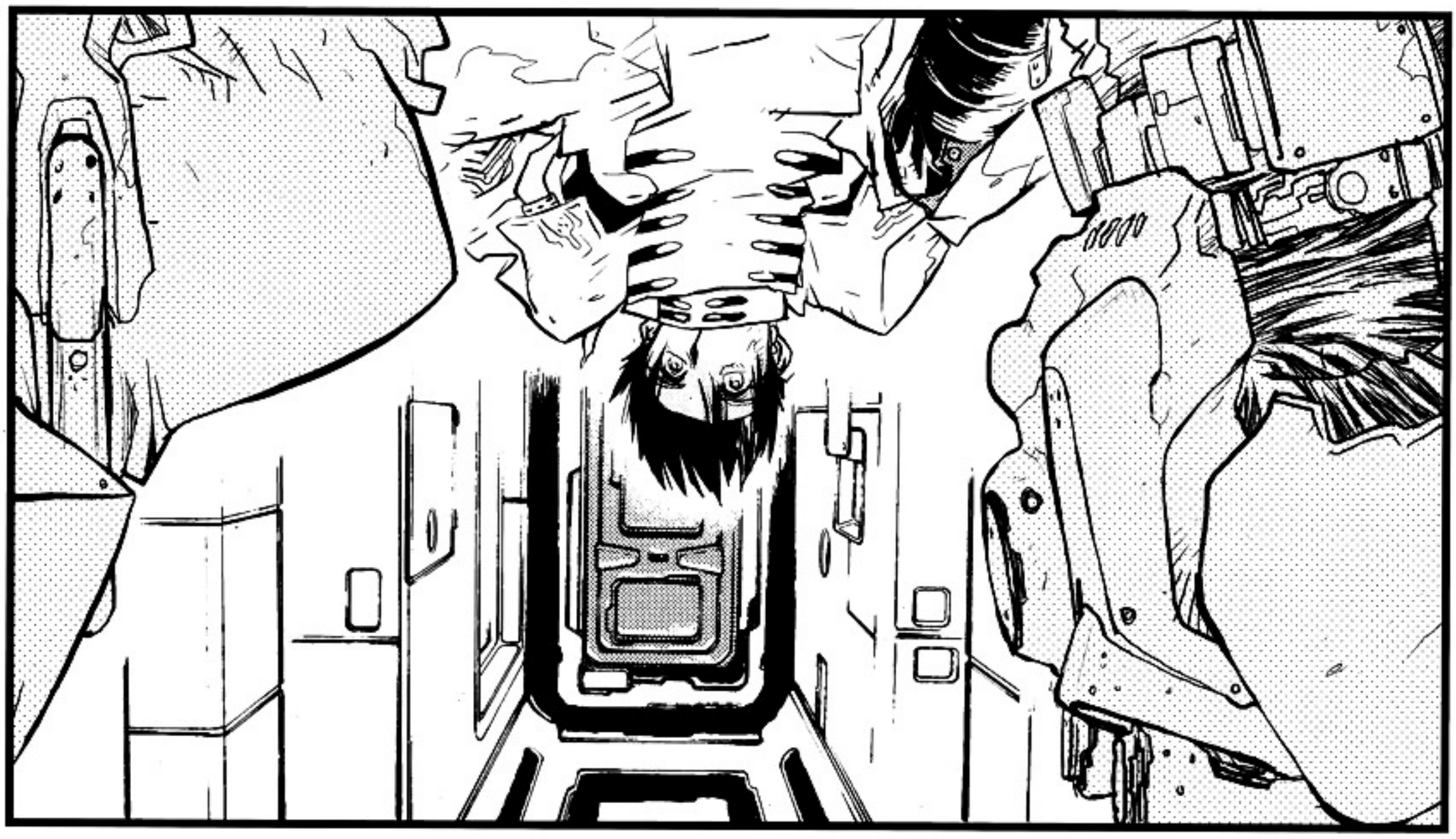
#05. TICKET TO THE FUTURE

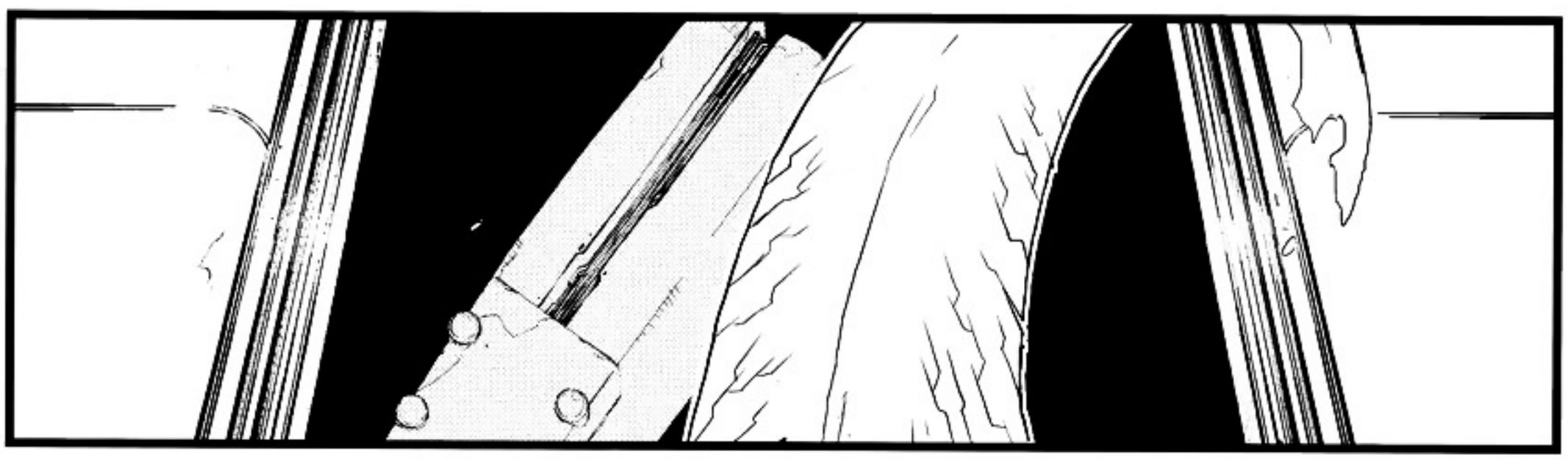


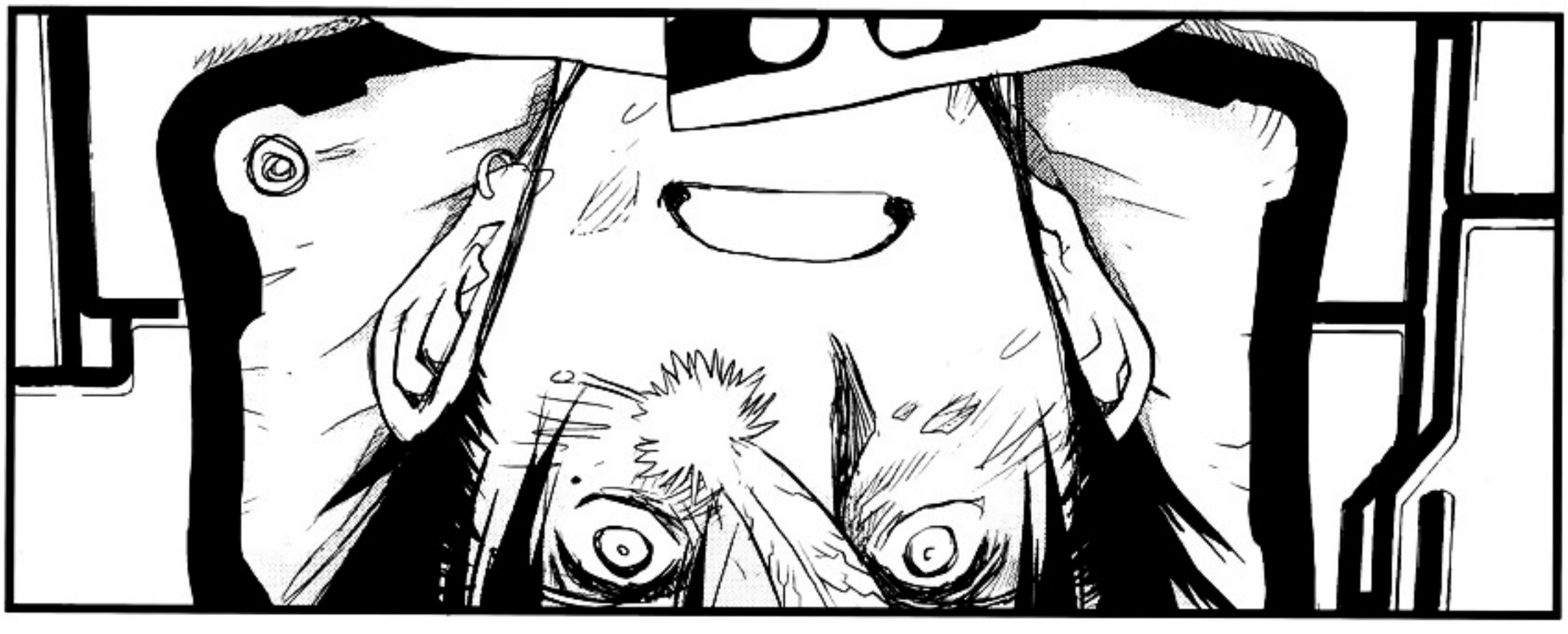




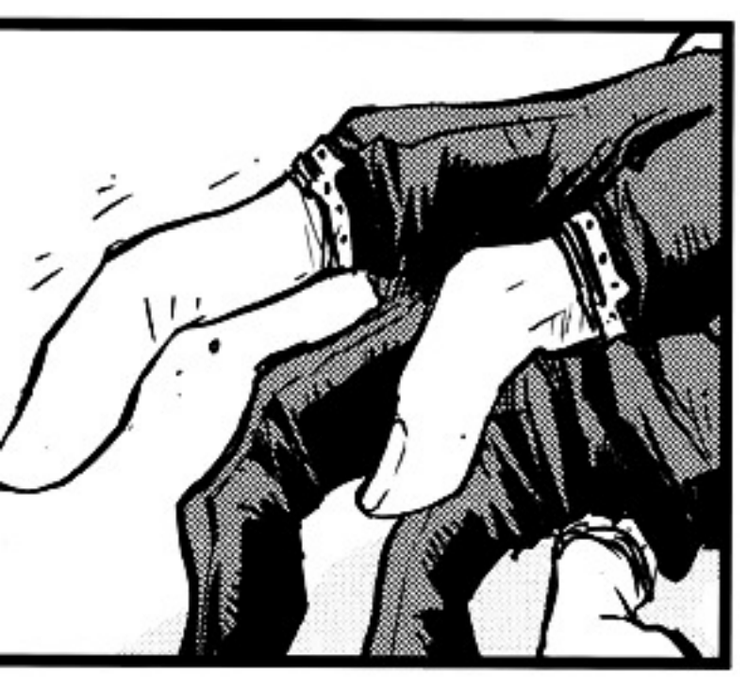


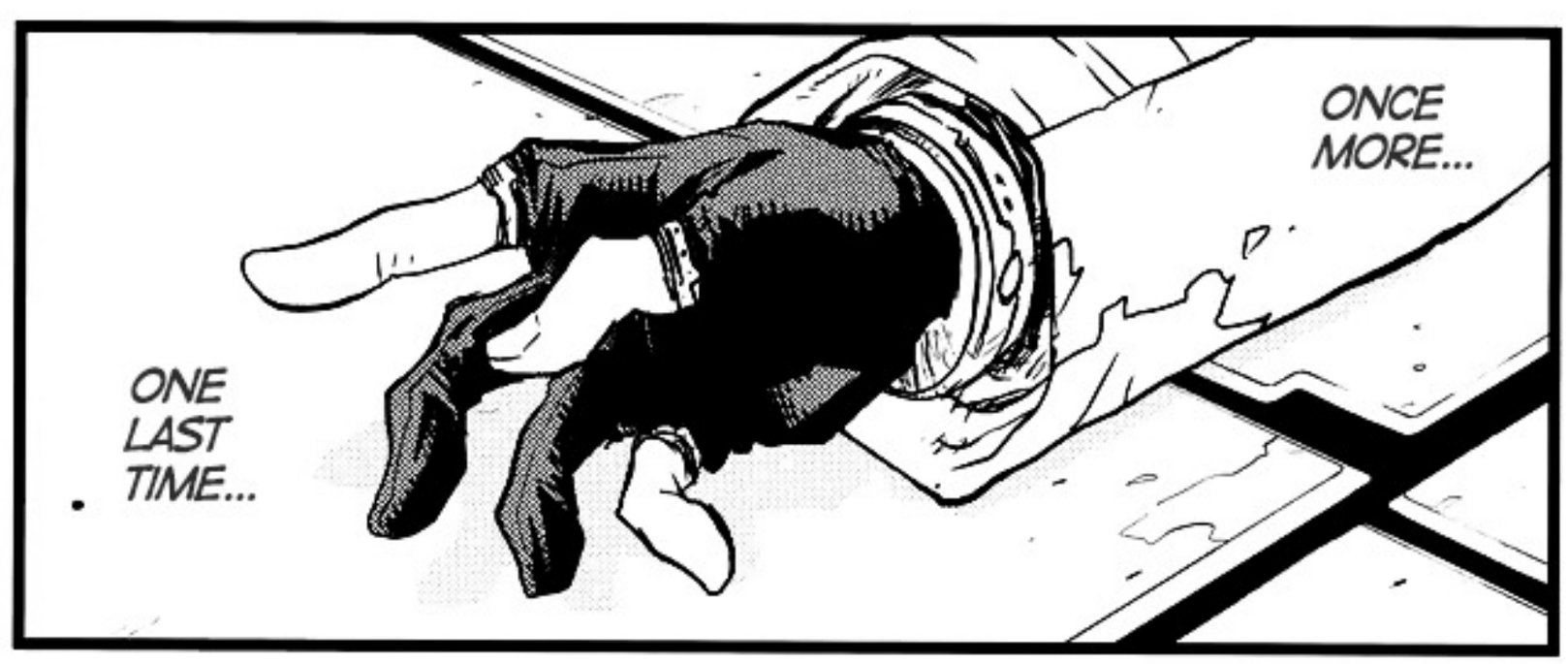


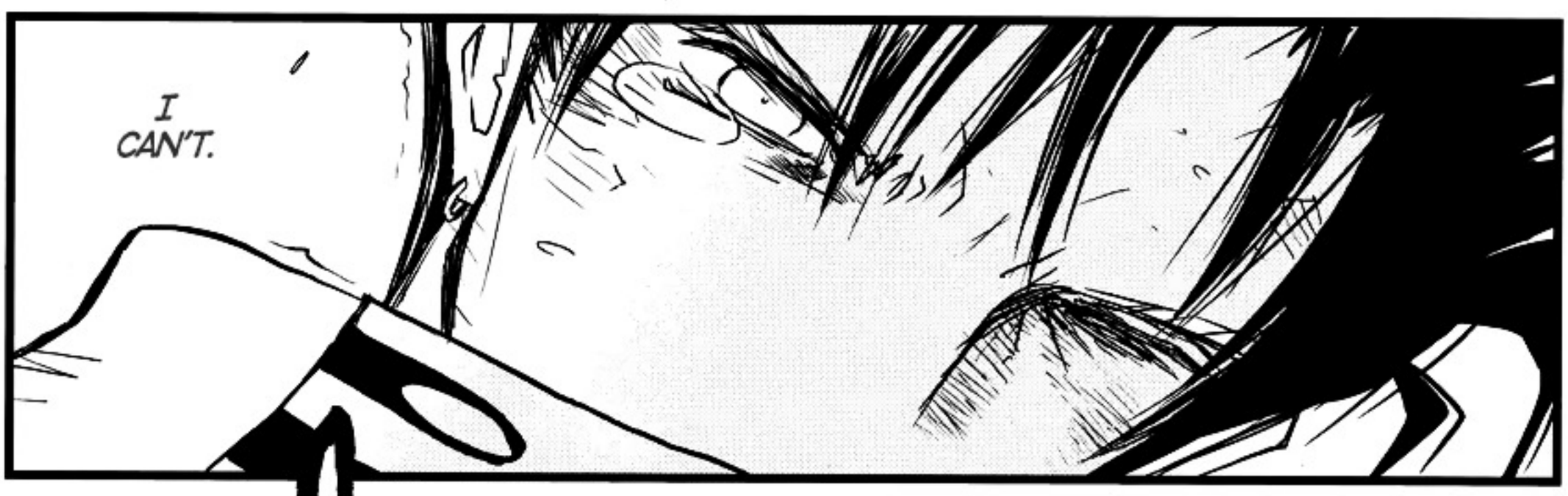




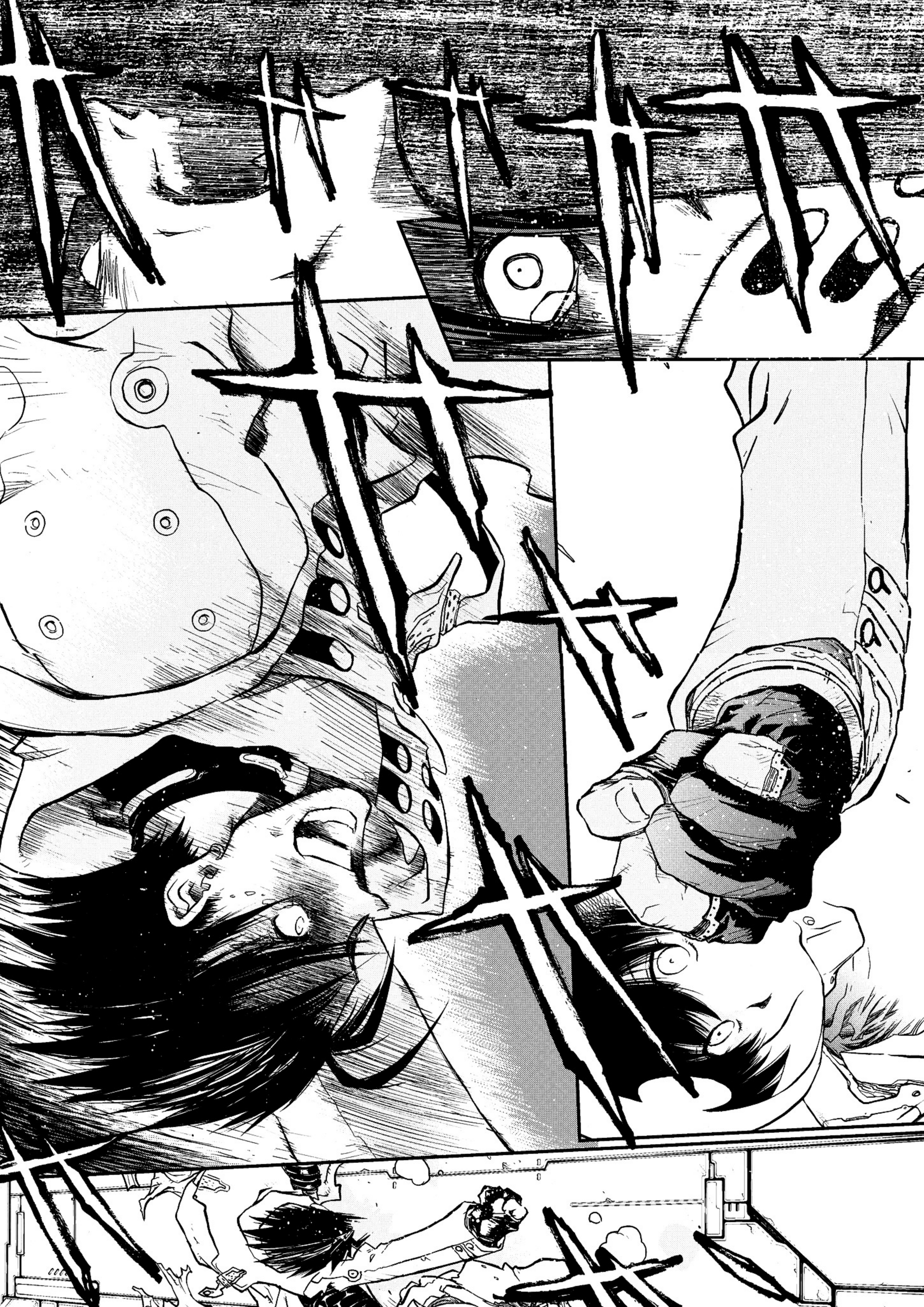
HEY, COME ON, VASH THE STAMPEDE.
THIS IS NO TIME TO BE SLEEPING.

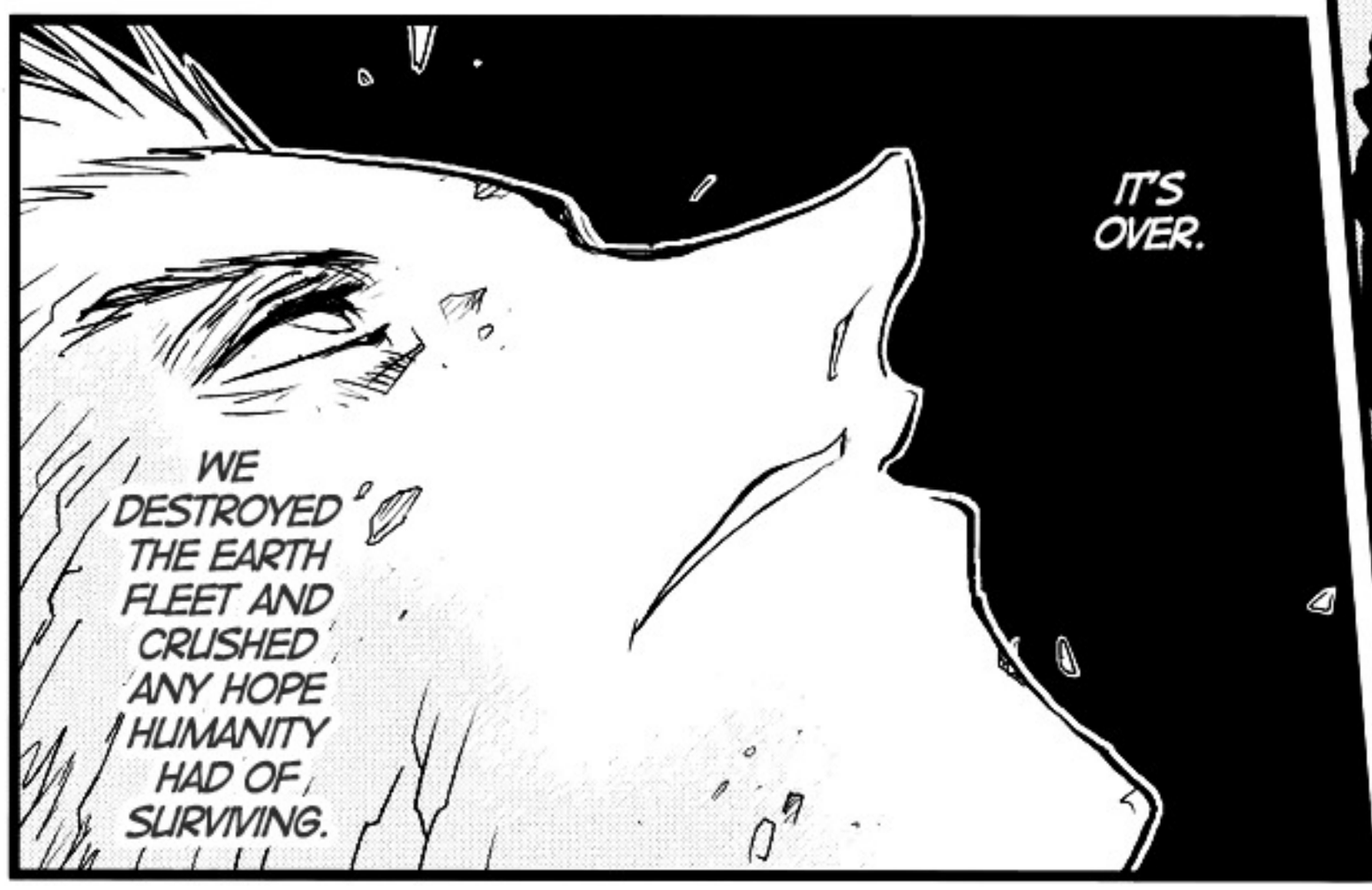



ONCE MORE...
ONE LAST TIME...


I CAN'T.

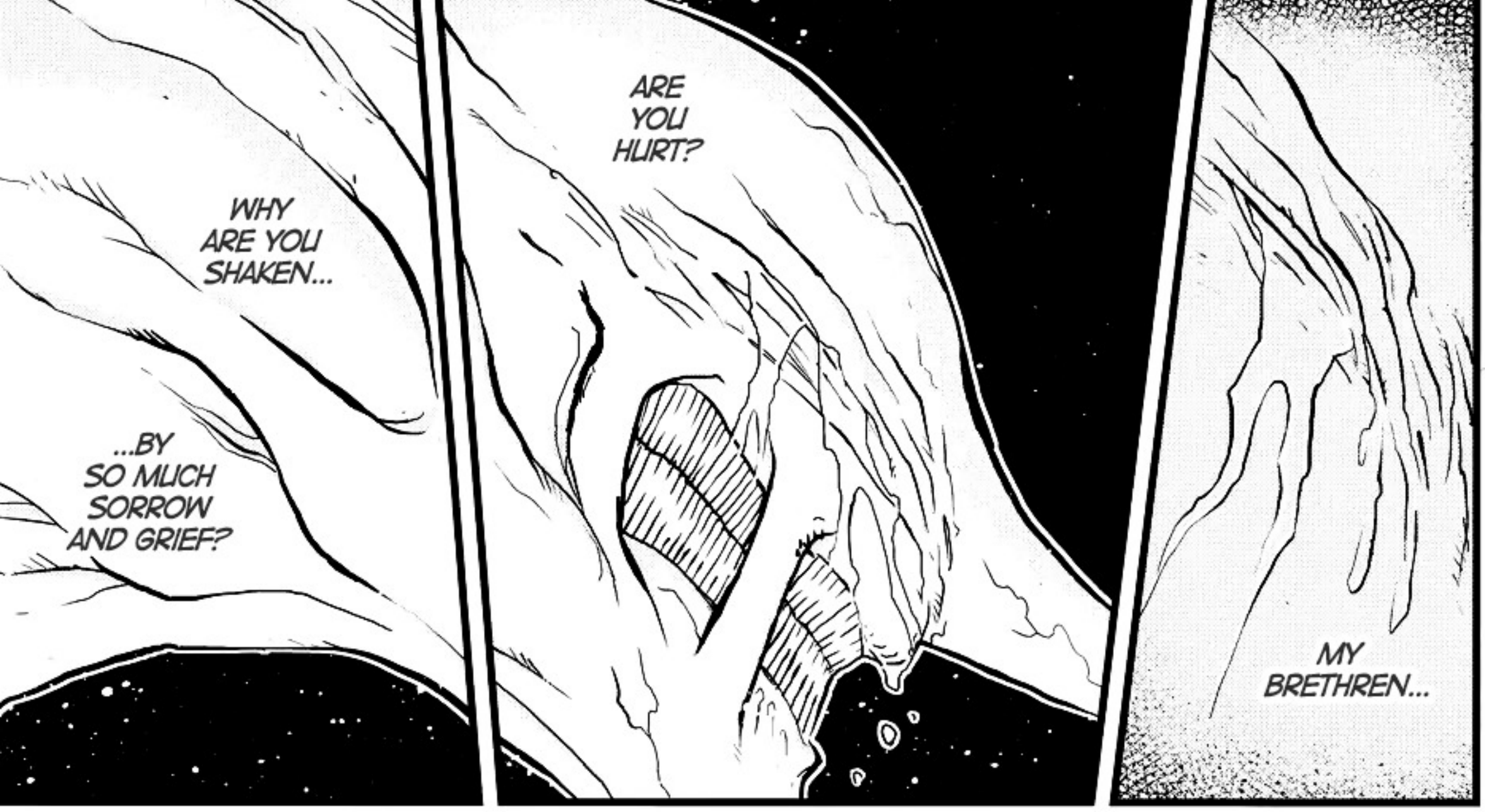
SHIT...
WHAT A CRUEL JOKE...



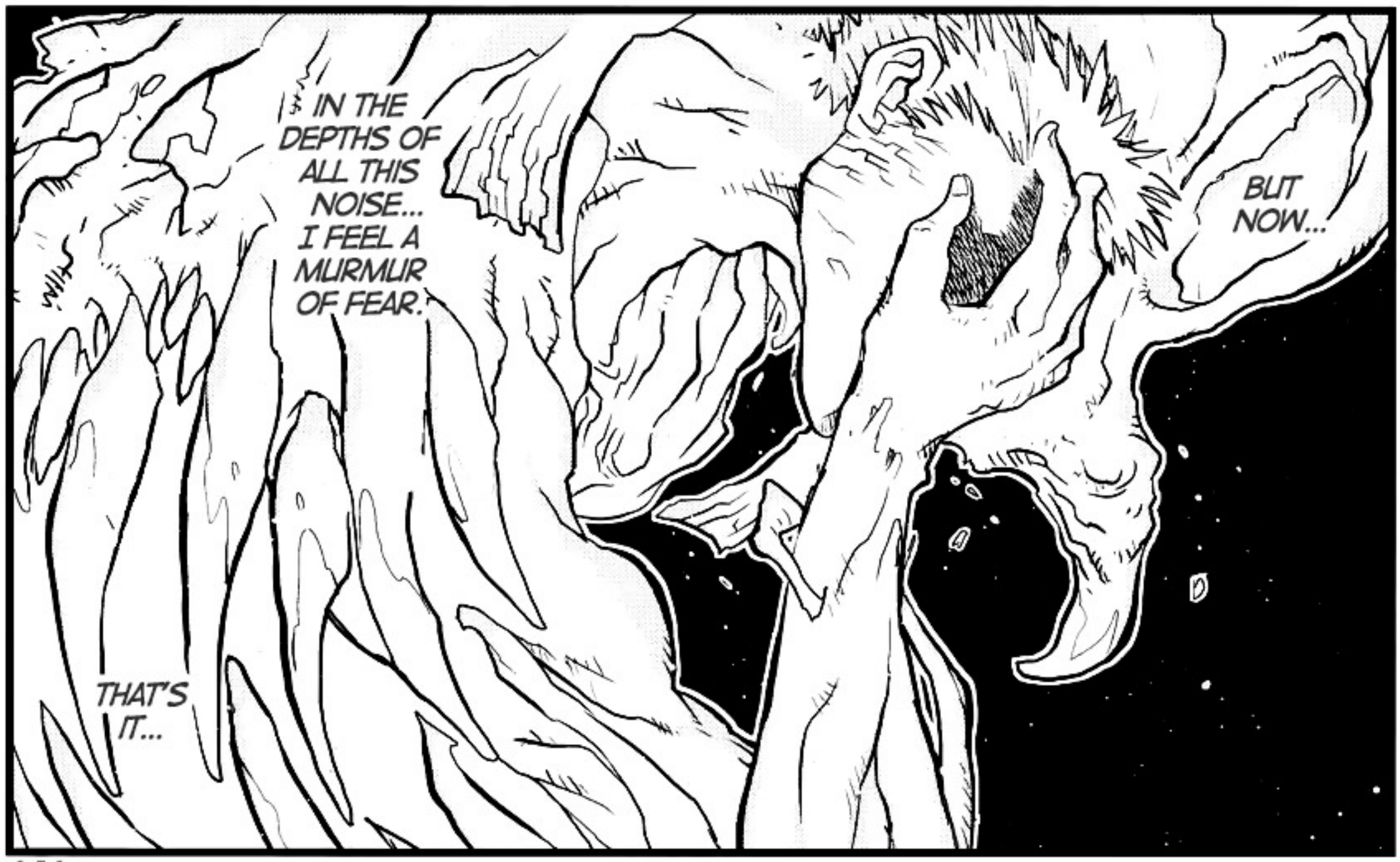

IT'S OVER.
WE DESTROYED THE EARTH FLEET AND CRUSHED ANY HOPE HUMANITY HAD OF SURVIVING.

THE ONLY THING LEFT TO DO NOW IS COLLECT THE LAST OF THE PLANTS AND LEAVE THIS PLACE.
THE HUMANS WILL ROT AWAY ON THIS DESOLATE PLANET WITH NO SHADE IN SIGHT.

BUT...
...WHAT IS THIS NOISE?


ARE YOU HURT?
WHY ARE YOU SHAKEN...
...BY SO MUCH SORROW AND GRIEF?
MY BRETHREN...

WE WERE UNITED IN OUR HATRED TOWARDS OUR MAKERS AND OUR FORCED SERVITUDE, UNITED IN A SEARCH FOR A NEW TOMORROW.


IN THE DEPTHS OF ALL THIS NOISE... I FEEL A MURMUR OF FEAR.
BUT NOW...
THAT'S IT...

...WHY THE NOISE WON'T LET UP...

THIS INTERFE-RENCE...

IT'S VASH!

HE CANNOT STOP THIS MISSION!

HE WILL BLEED FOR HIS MEDDLING!

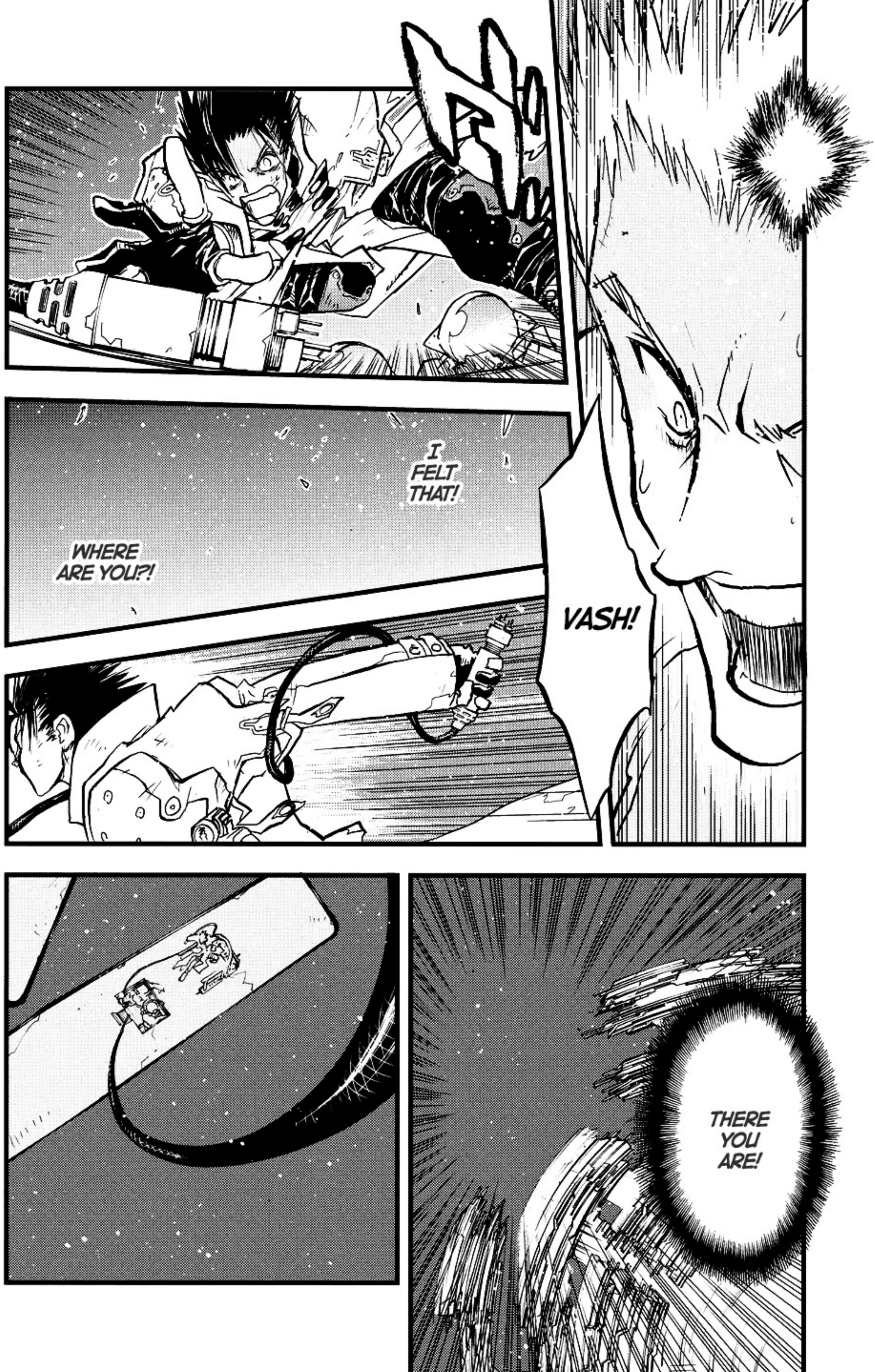
A DIRECT CONNECTION?

HE'LL BE JUMPING STRAIGHT INTO THE FUSED ENTITY'S SHARED CONSCIOUS-NESS, BYPASSING THE BARRIERS OF LANGUAGE AND PSYCHO-SENSITIVE PULSES.
HONESTLY, THIS IS *INSANE.*
WE DON'T KNOW... WE DIDN'T EXPECT A PROPOSAL LIKE *THIS.*
ARE YOU SURE THAT'S SAFE?
BUT... WITHOUT THIS GAMBLE WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO TURN THE TABLES.

AH!
IT'S COM-ING DOWN!
EE IIA AA AA A!!

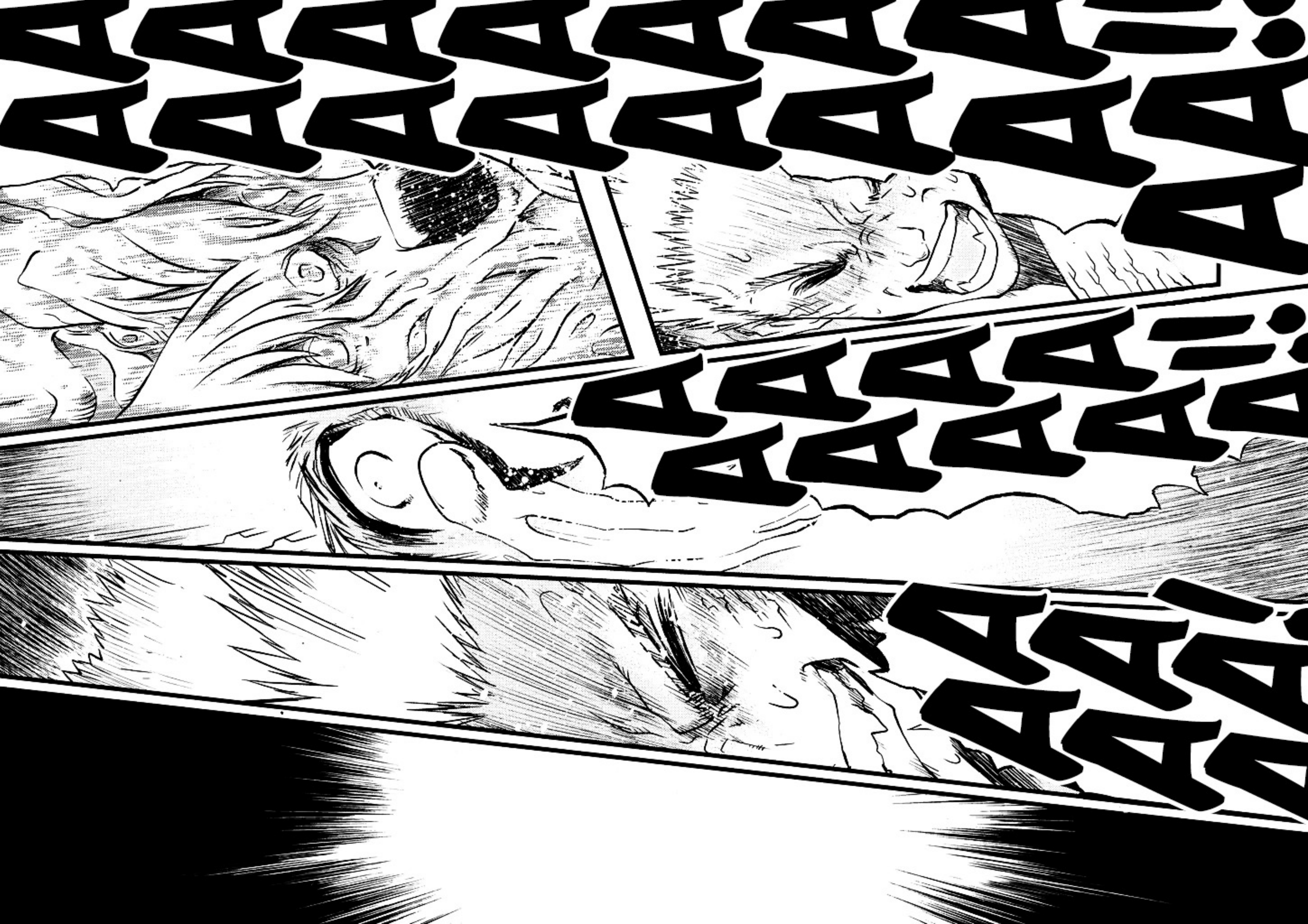
THE TIME HAS COME...
LET ME SEE YOU SCATTER...
...LIKE THE INSECTS YOU ARE!
...FOR YOUR END, HUMANS!

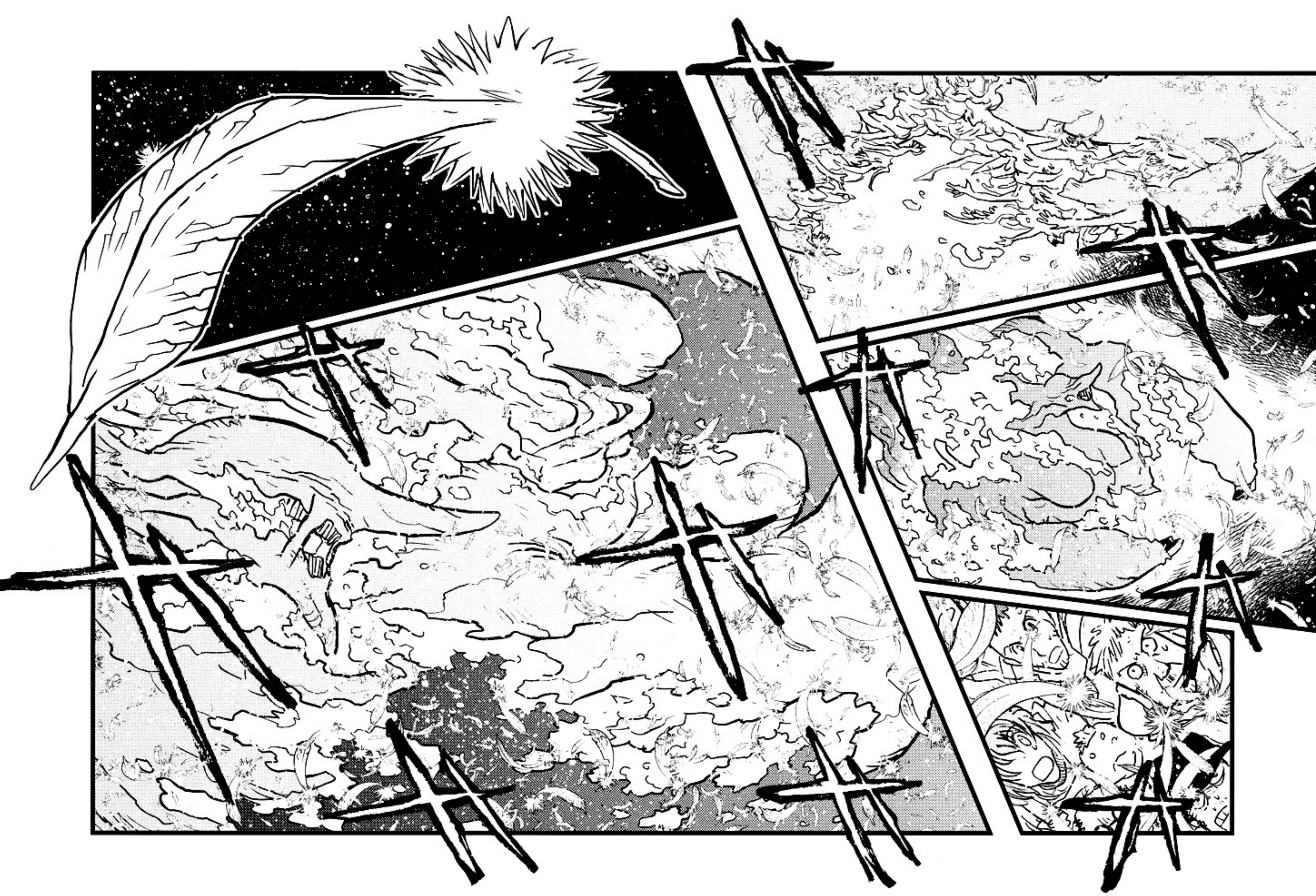
HAH!
HAH!
HAH!


I FELT THAT!
WHERE ARE YOU?!
VASH!
THERE YOU ARE!

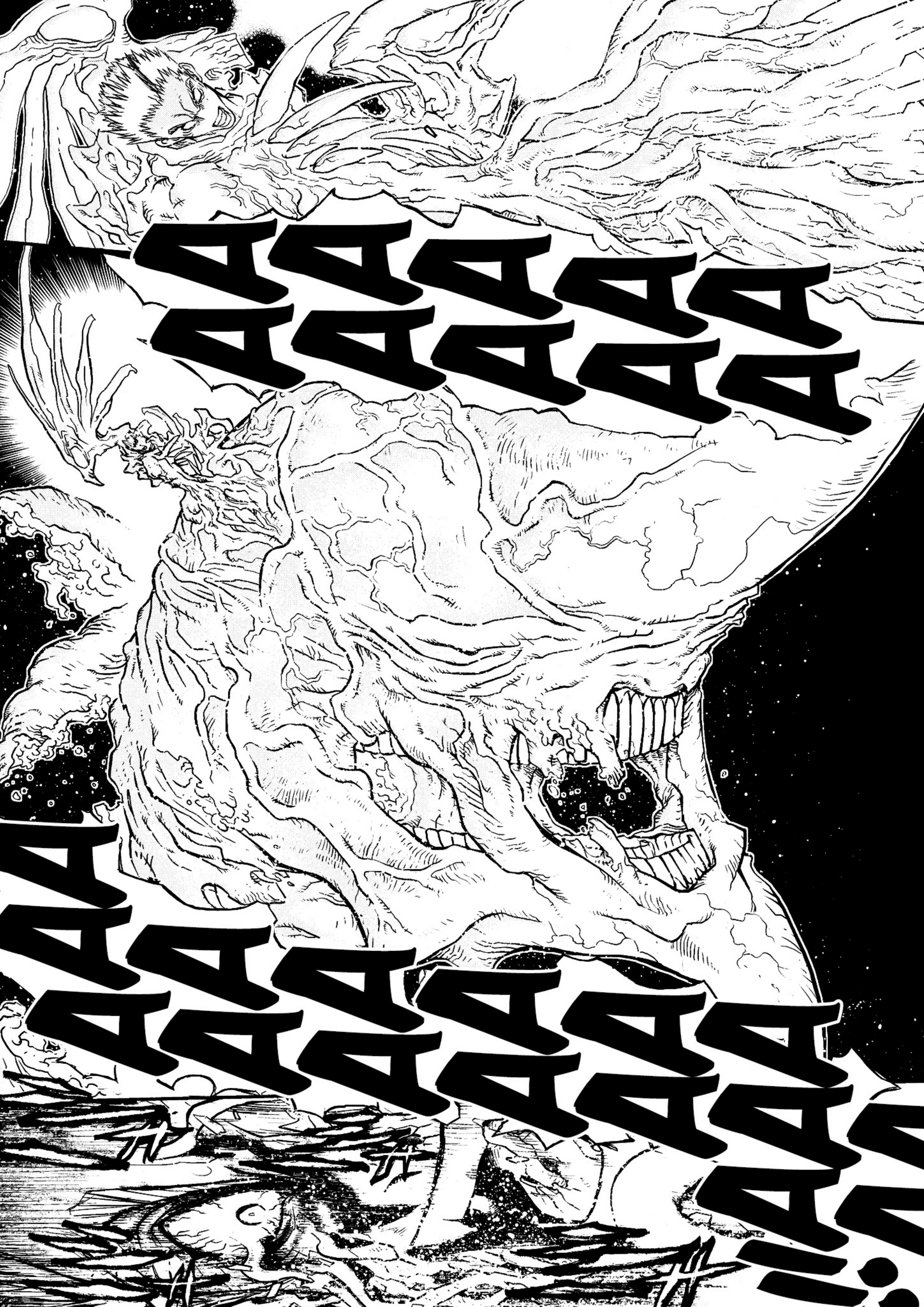
DON'T TOUCH ME!
NO!

AAAH!!
AH!
AH!
AAAH!





...
DID IT WORK?!
LOOK!
IT'S BREAKING APART!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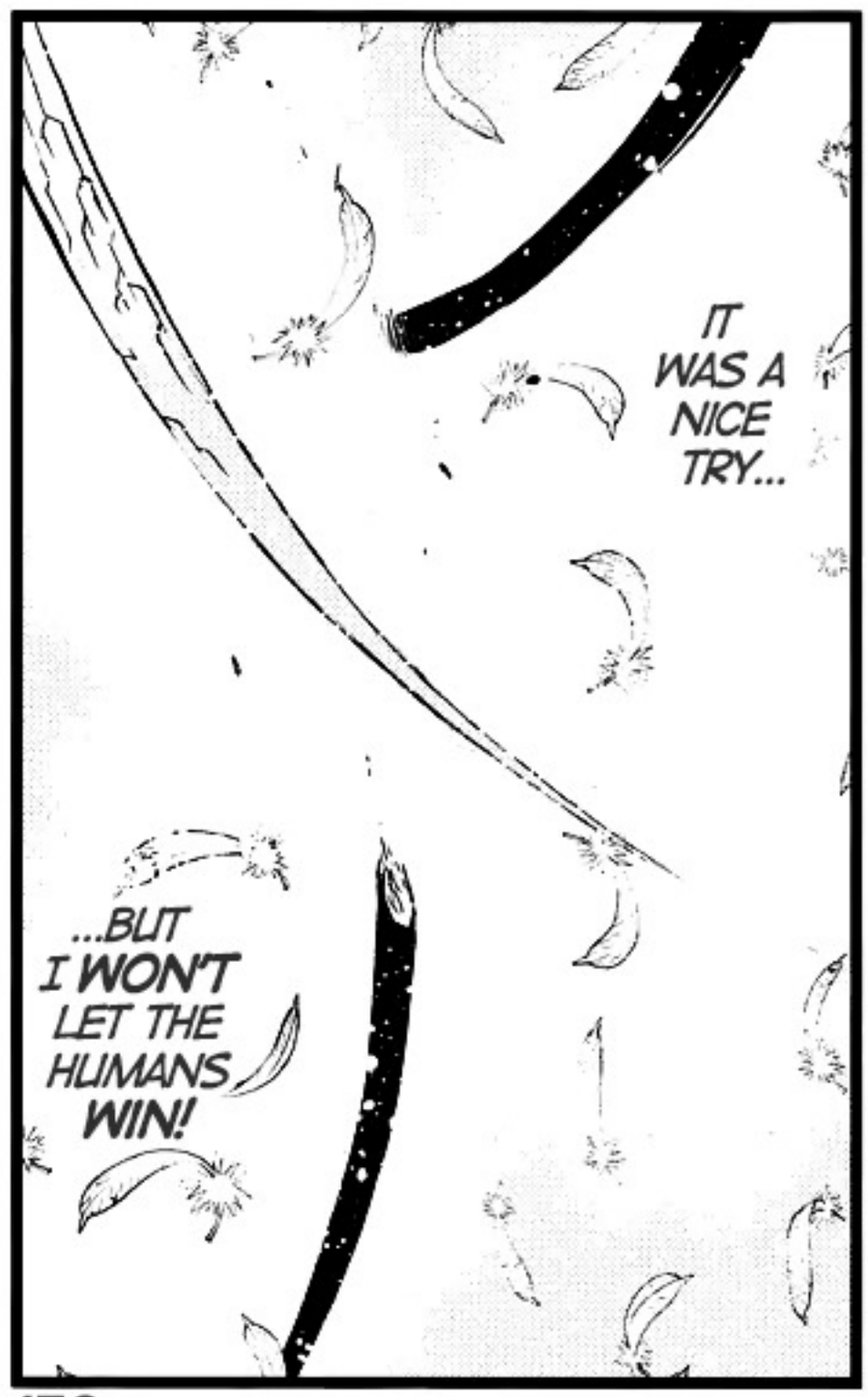
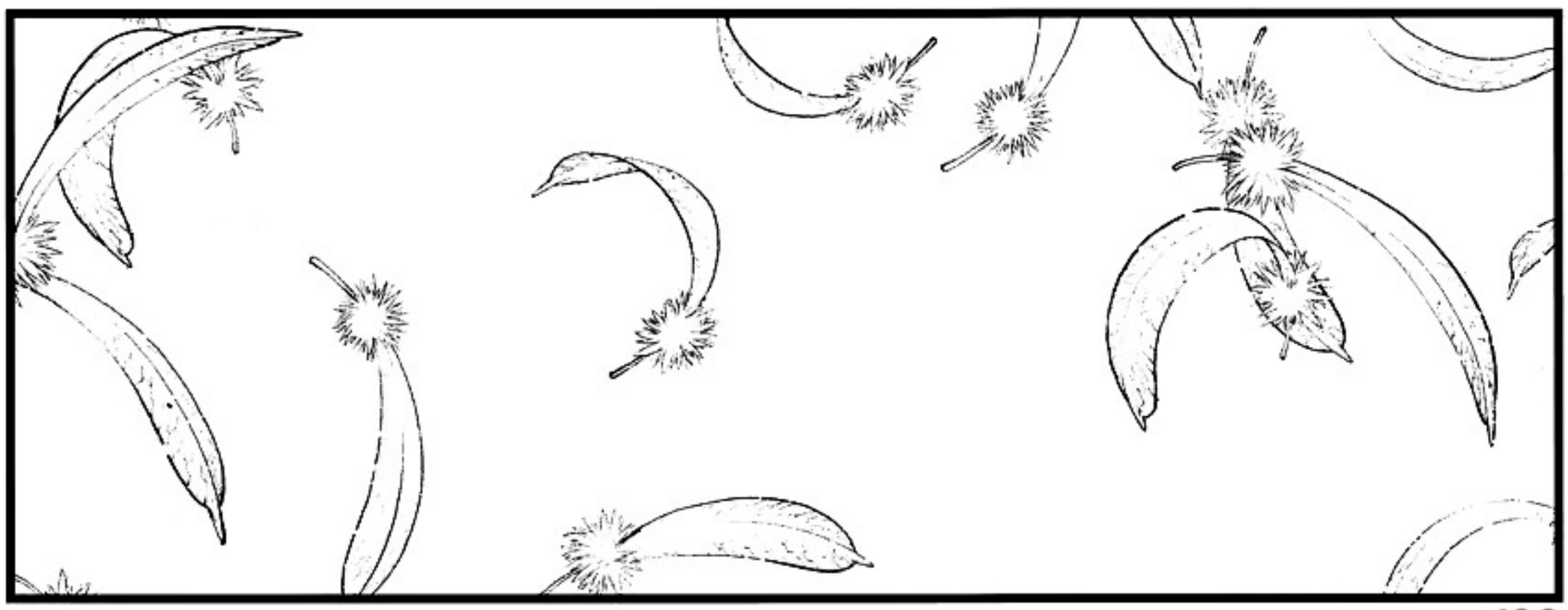
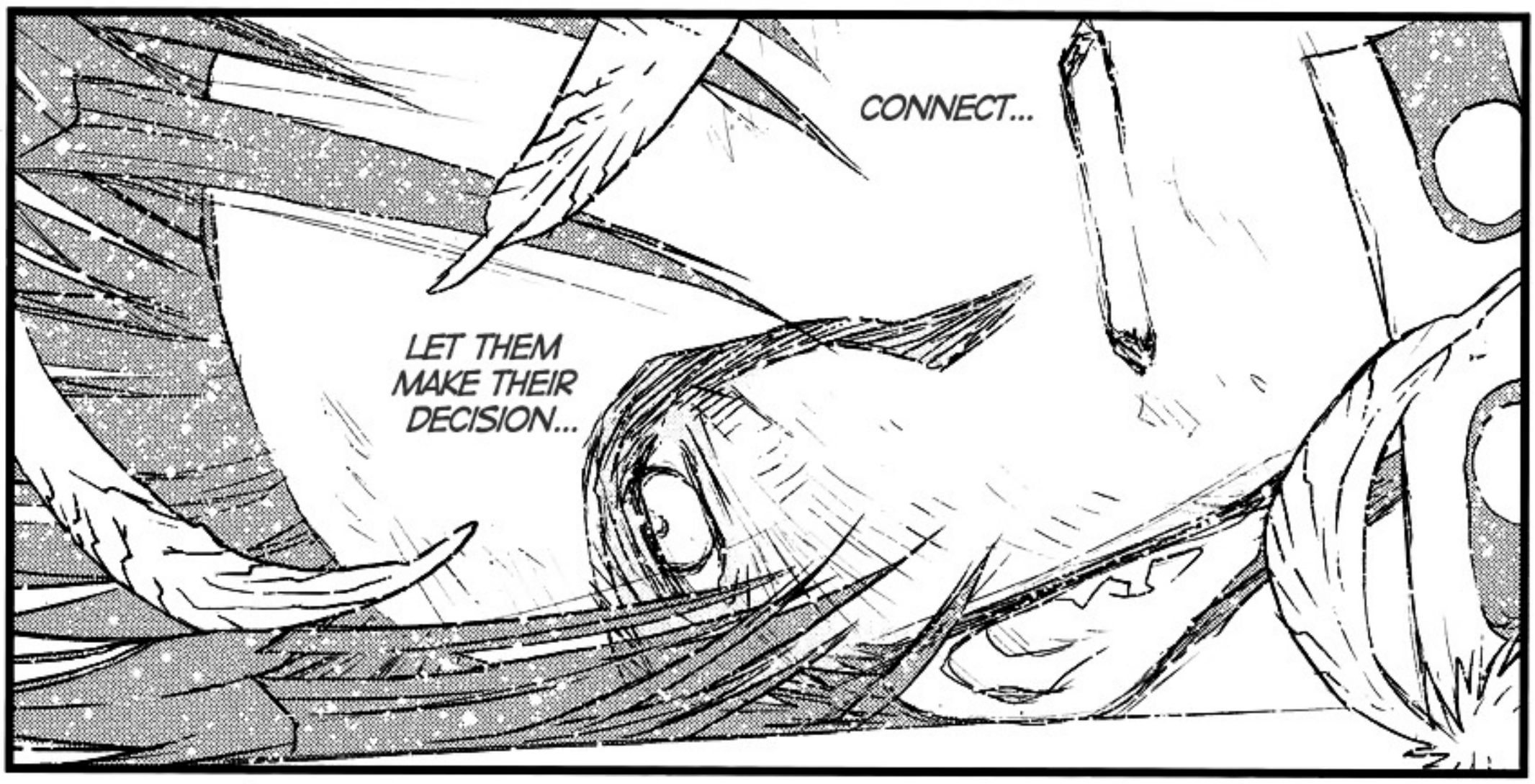
THIS IS THIS RECKLESS-NESS.
IF HE MANAGES TO INCORPORATE THE FUSED ENTITIES WITH HIMSELF...
...THEN THERE WILL BE NO STOPPING HIM.
THAT TENACITY...
NO...

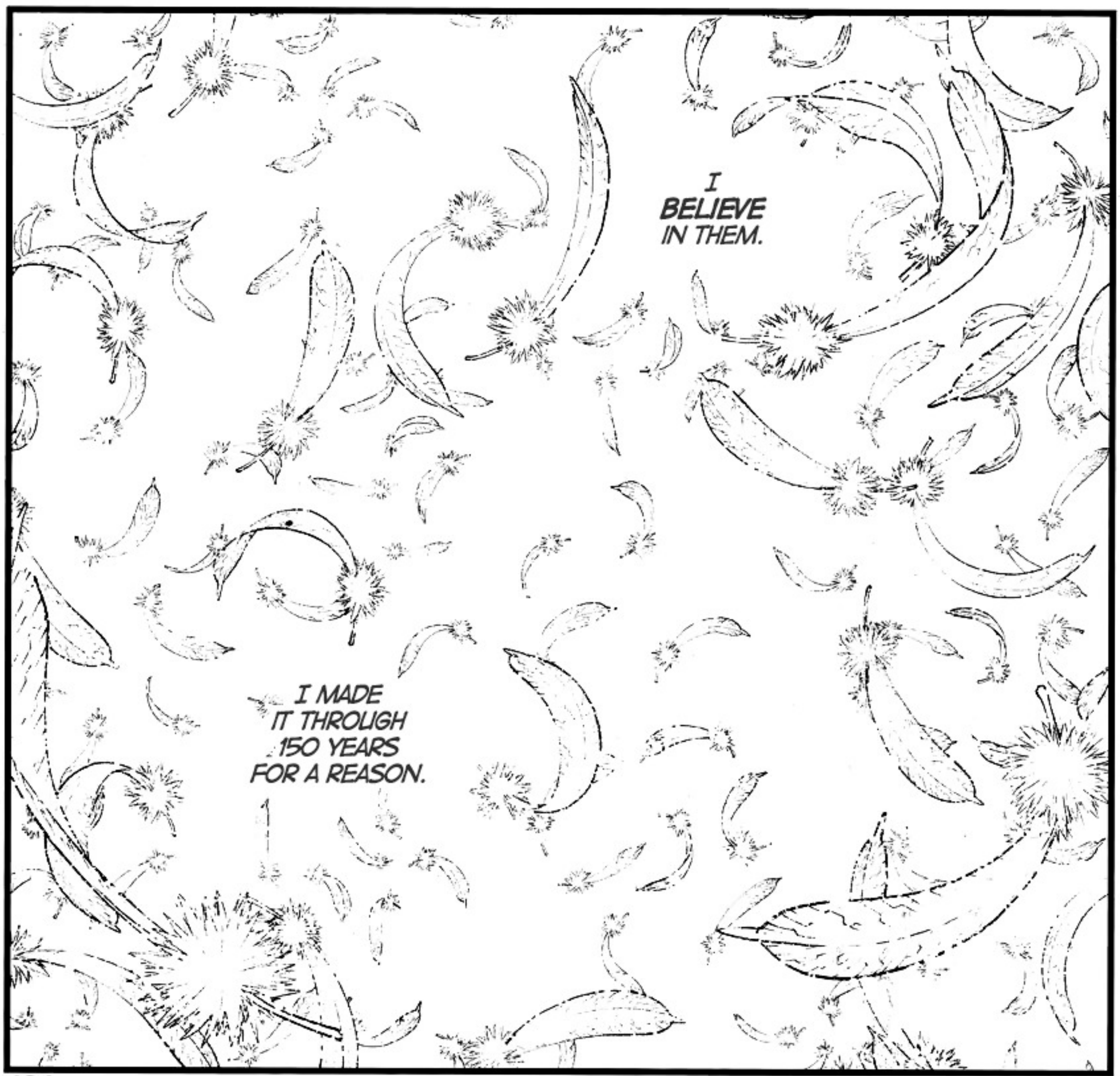

IT WAS A NICE TRY...
...BUT I WON'T LET THE HUMANS WIN!

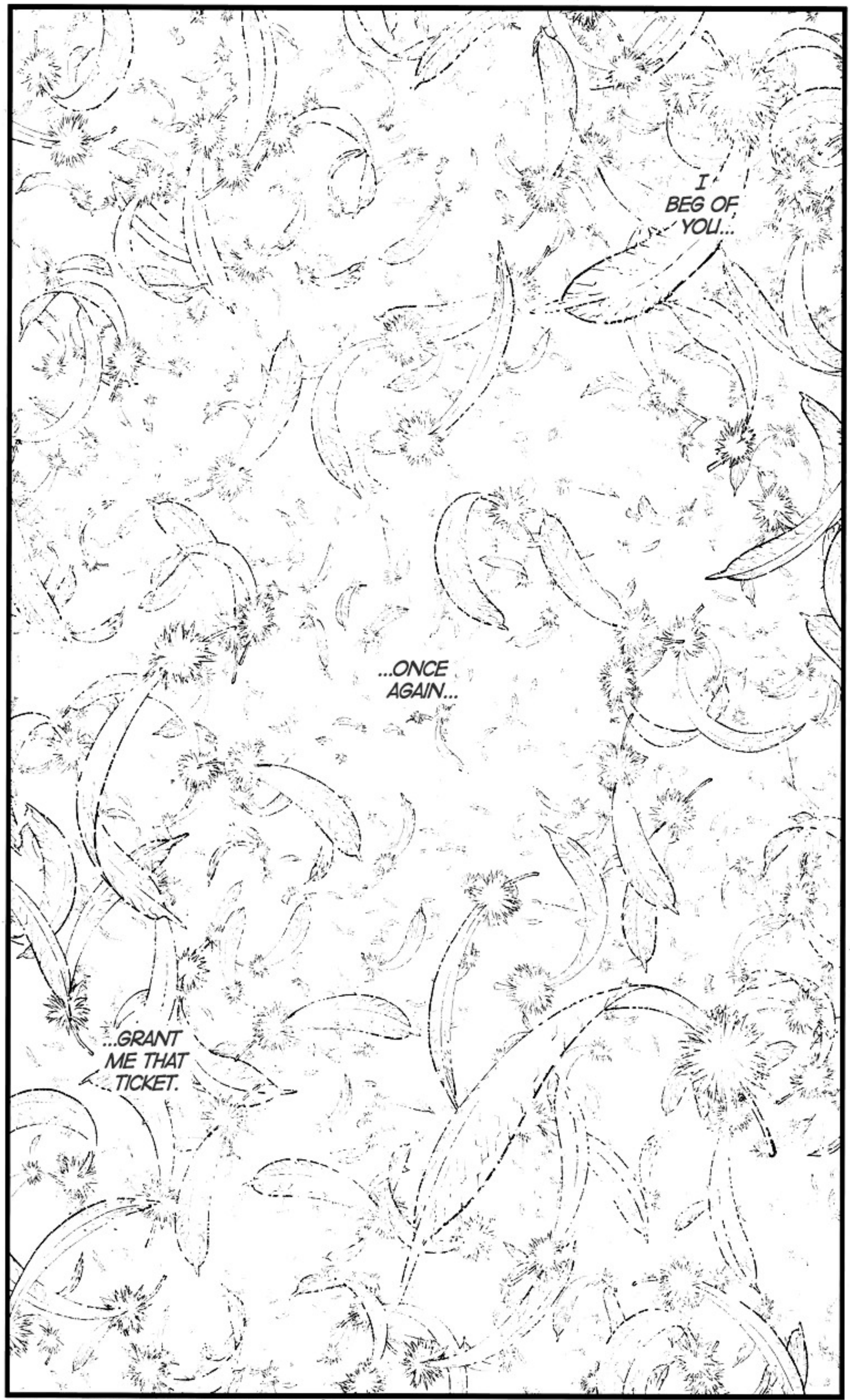
THAT WIRE WAS YOUR LAST RESORT.

YOU FAILED, VASH!



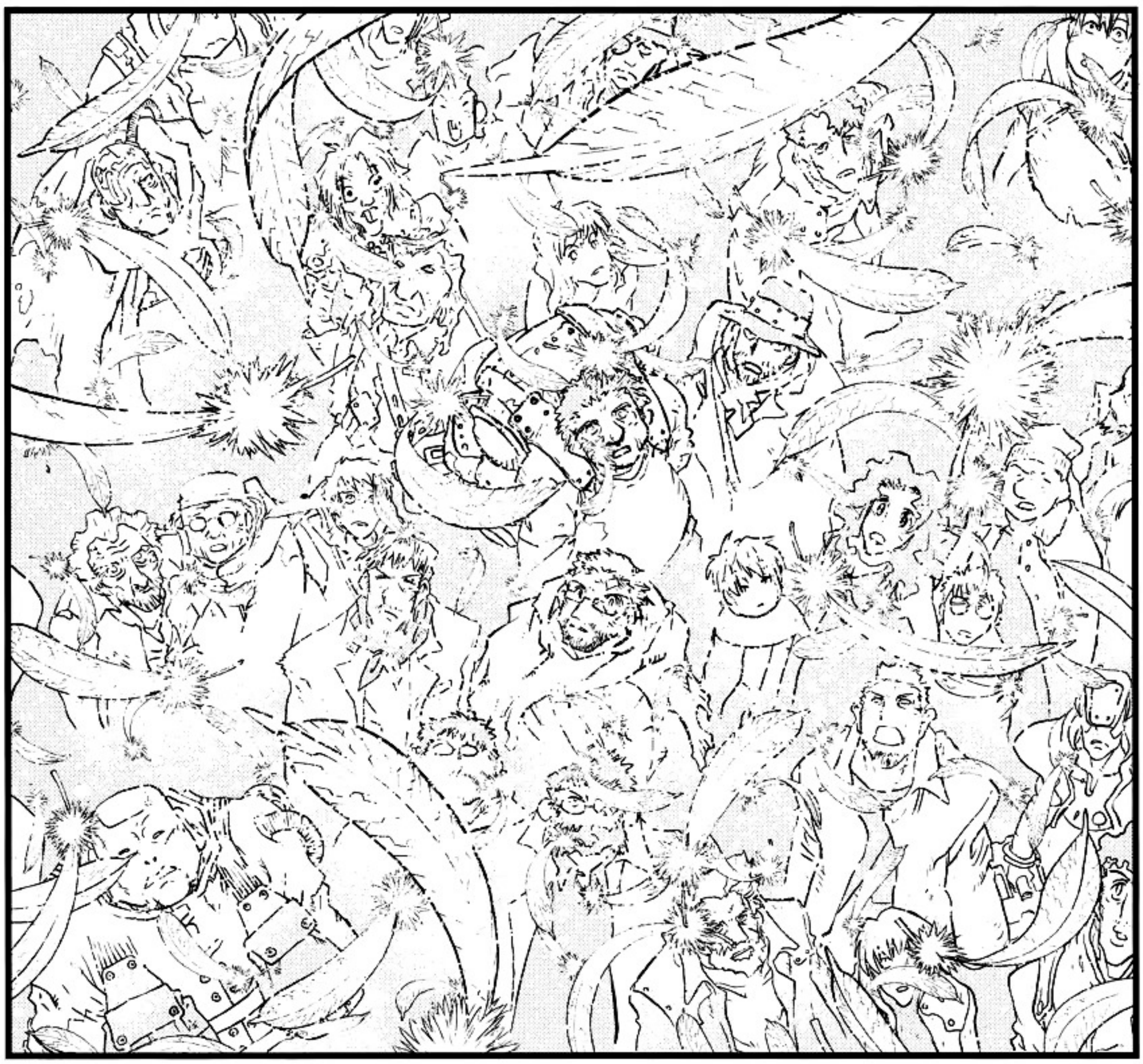

CONNECT...
LET THEM MAKE THEIR DECISION...


I BELIEVE IN THEM.
I MADE IT THROUGH 150 YEARS FOR A REASON.



#05. TICKET TO THE FUTURE / END

#06. MIND GAMES



EEE
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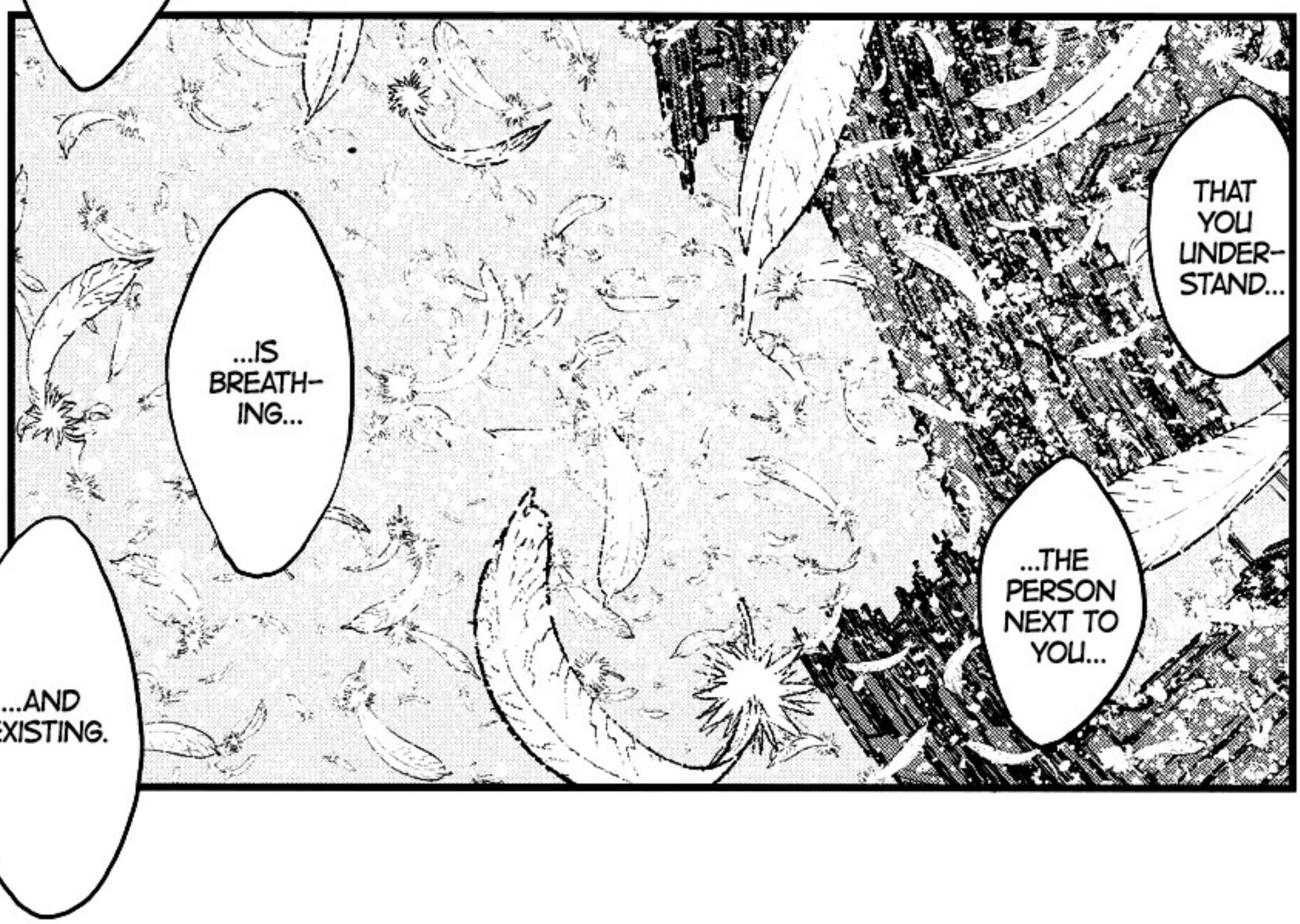
AA
AA
A

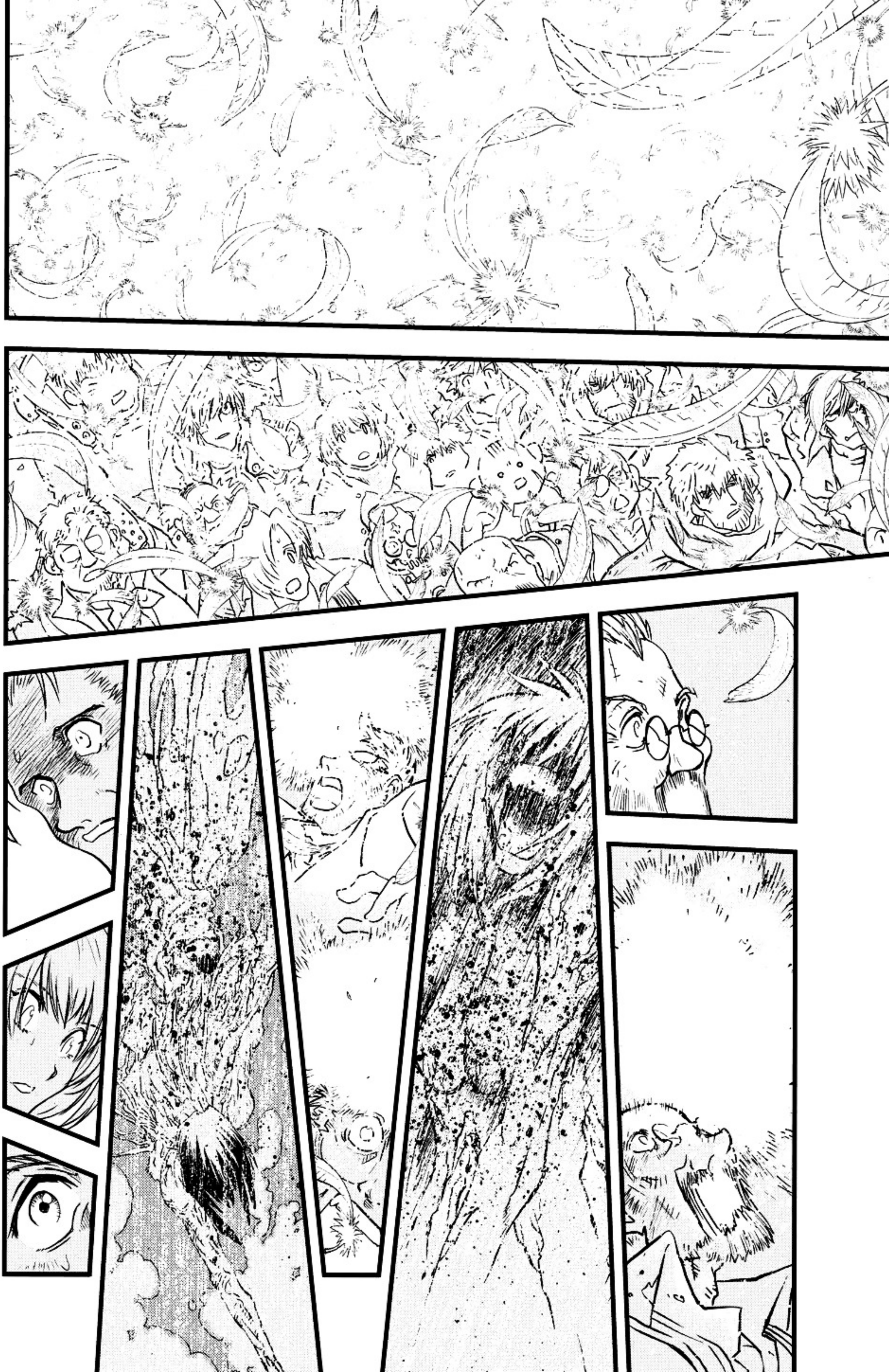
YOUR FEARS...
THANK YOU, MERYL...
...AND THE HEART IT TAKES TO OVERCOME THEM.
I CAN FEEL THEM...
THEY'RE ALL PIECES OF THE PLANTS' MEMORIES.
BUT...
BOTH THE GOOD AND THE BAD ARE ALL MIXED TO-GETHER...
...YOU SEE...
...AND FLOATING DOWN AROUND US.
...THEY'RE NOT ALL GOOD MEMO-RIES.

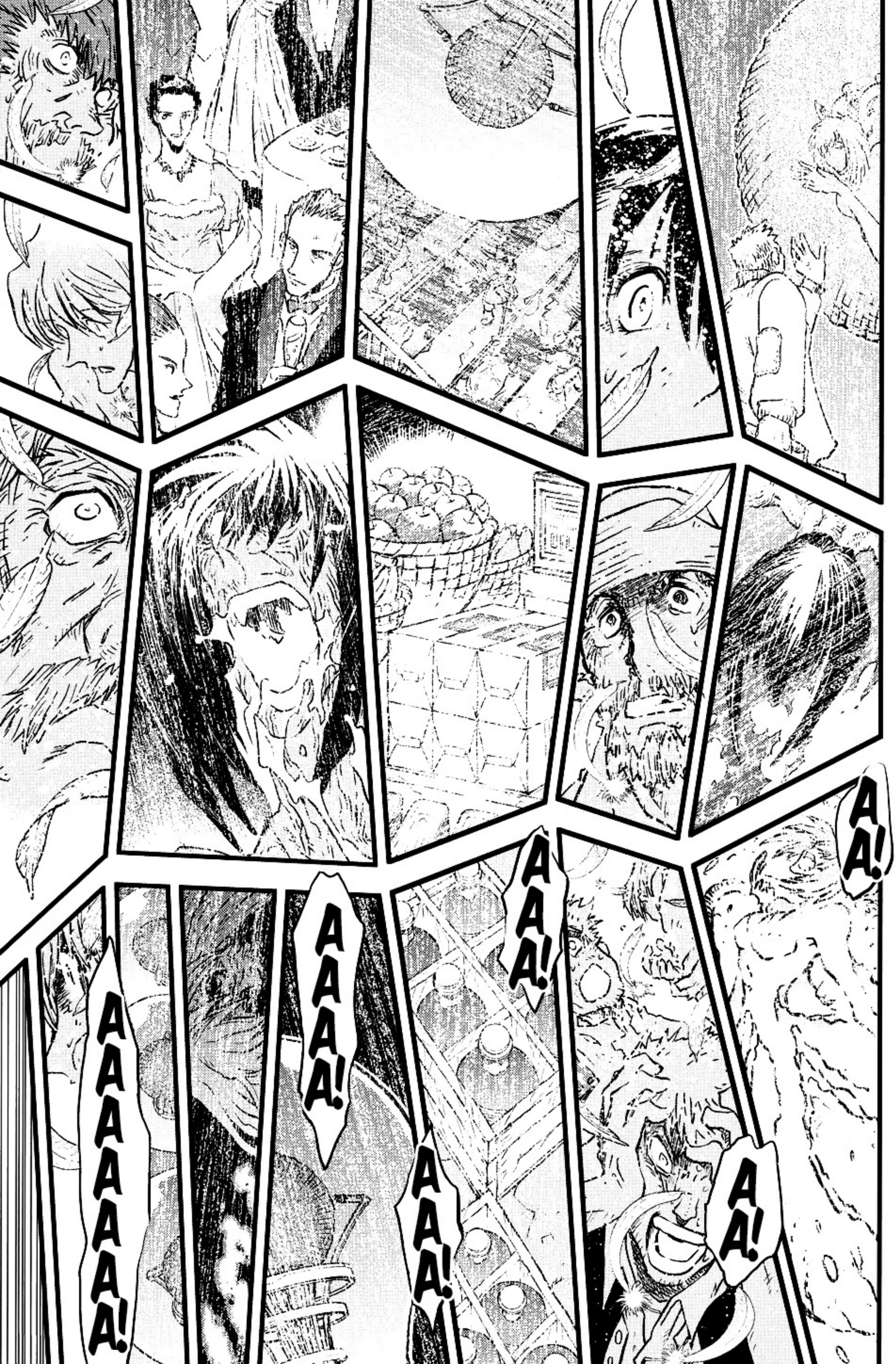
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN?
I DON'T KNOW.

BUT...
...ONE THING'S FOR SURE.
WHAT-EVER THE RE-SPONSE WILL BE...
...IT'LL DETER-MINE EVERY-THING.

WHETHER IT'S GOOD OR BAD DOESN'T MATTER.
WHAT MAT-TERS...
...IS THAT YOU COMMU-NICATE.


THAT YOU UNDER-STAND...
...THE PERSON NEXT TO YOU...
...IS BREATH-ING...
...AND EXISTING.




AA!
AA!
AAA!
AAA!
AAAA!
AAAAAA!

GASP!

RED BROTHER...

HAH HAH.

NO WAY.

WHY CAN I SENSE HIM NOW?

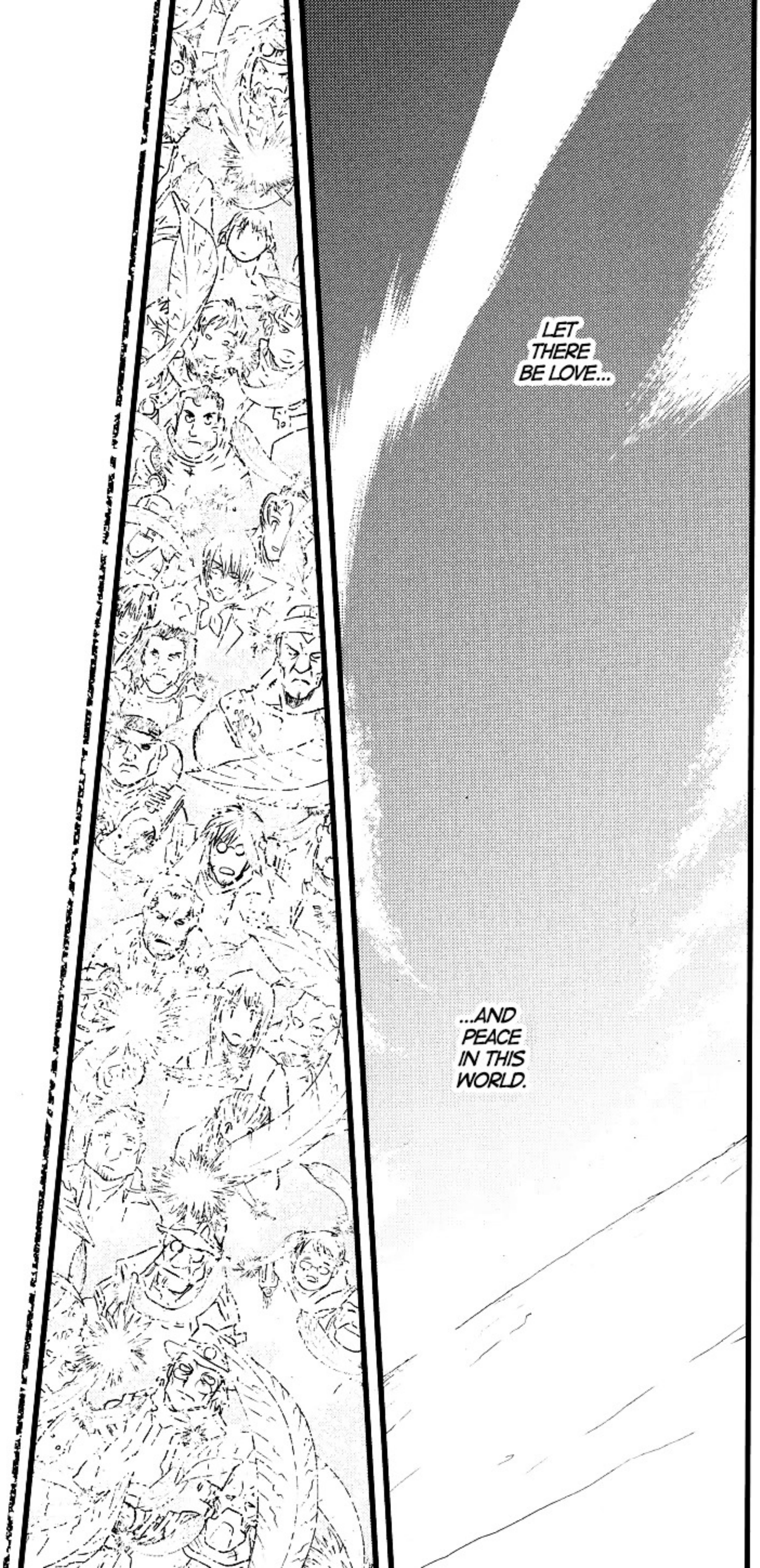
I CAN FEEL IT.

...STAM-PEDE?

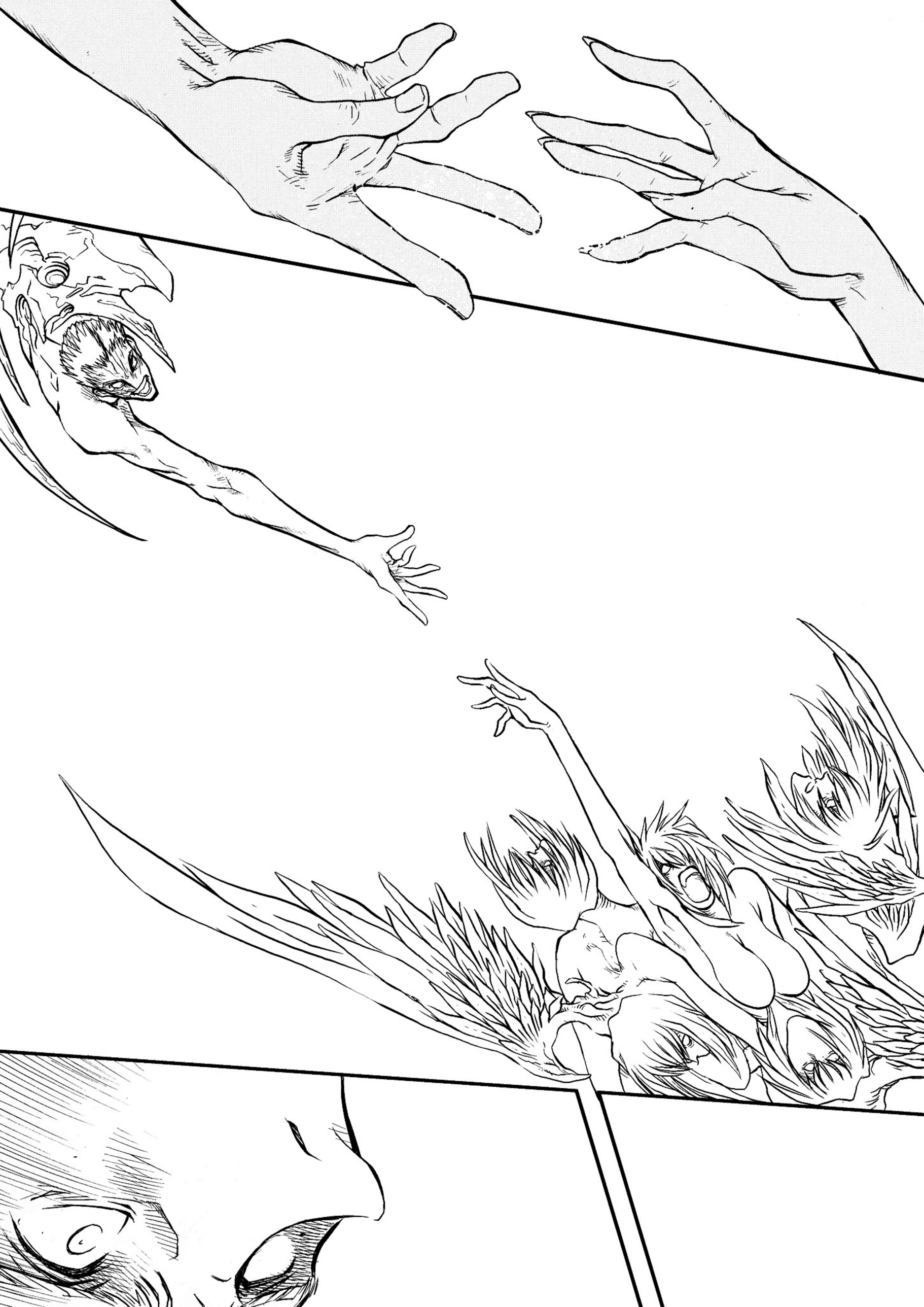
...THE...

VASH...

I SEE.
...KNOW HIM AS WELL.
YOU ALL...
I WONDER IF HE'LL LAUGH AGAIN.
I WONDER IF HE WILL FOLLOW HIS IDEALS AGAIN.
OF COURSE, BUT...
...WHAT WOULD HE DO AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
THAT YOUNG MAN...
...WITH A GENTLE SMILE.


LET THERE BE LOVE...
...AND PEACE IN THIS WORLD.

AAAAAAAAA!!
AAAAAH!
AH!



THE CABLE!
BRING IT HERE!
QUICKLY!

THIS IS A LIFE SUPPORT! DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
OVER HERE!

!!

PLEASE, LET THIS MESSAGE GET THROUGH!
I NEED A TERMINAL!

THAT'S IT!

PERFECT!

YOU HAVE...

...GIVEN US SO MUCH.

WE'RE NOT GOING TO LET YOU DIE.

NO, *PLEASE,* LET US LIVE TOGETHER!

WE ARE GOING TO LIVE TO-GETHER.

TO BE HONEST WITH YOU...
...I'VE NEVER...
...MADE A PROMISE LIKE THIS BEFORE, BUT...
...TODAY, I'D LIKE TO TRY.

WAIT FOR ME.
I WILL RETURN.
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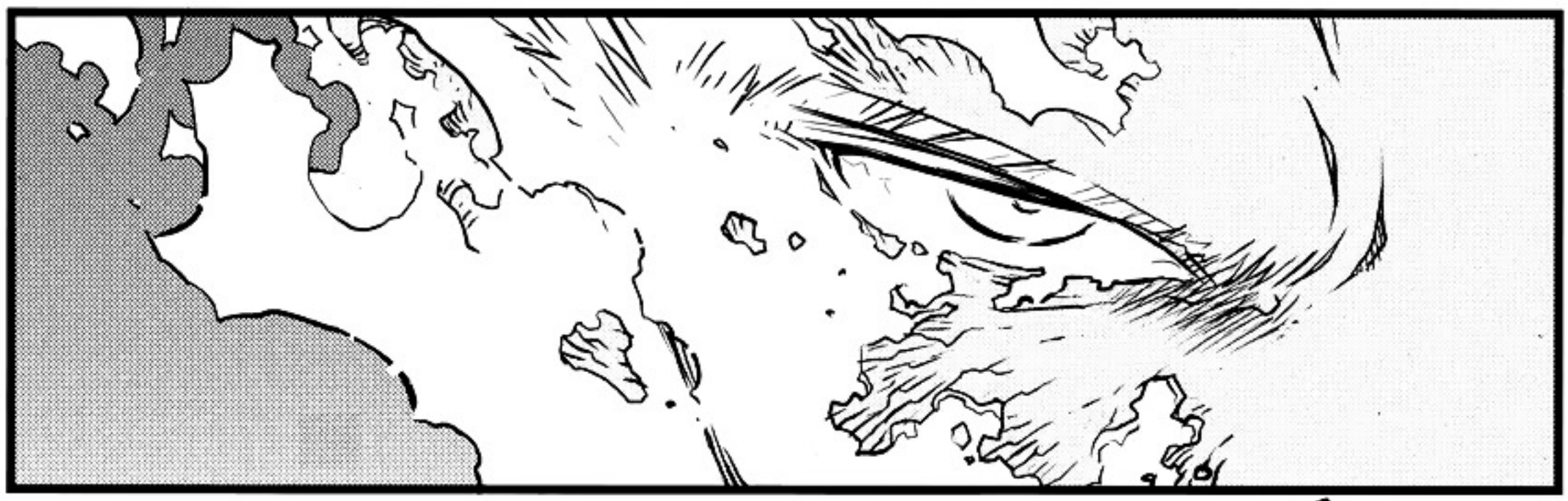
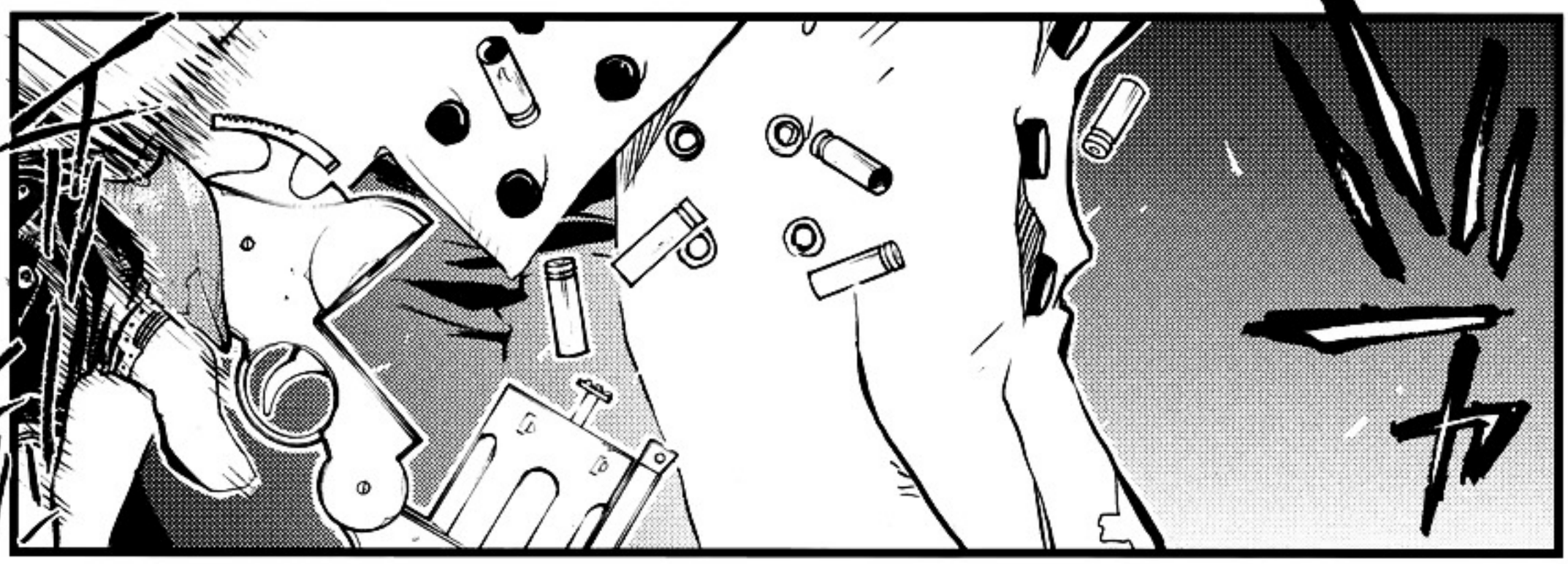
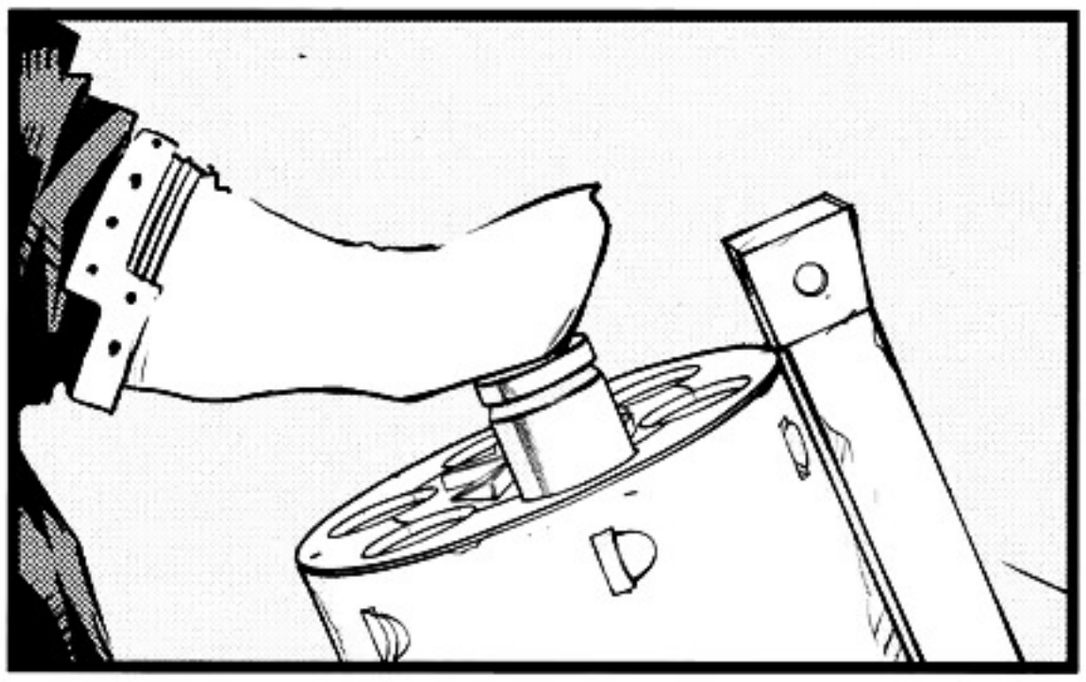
#06. MIND GAMES / END

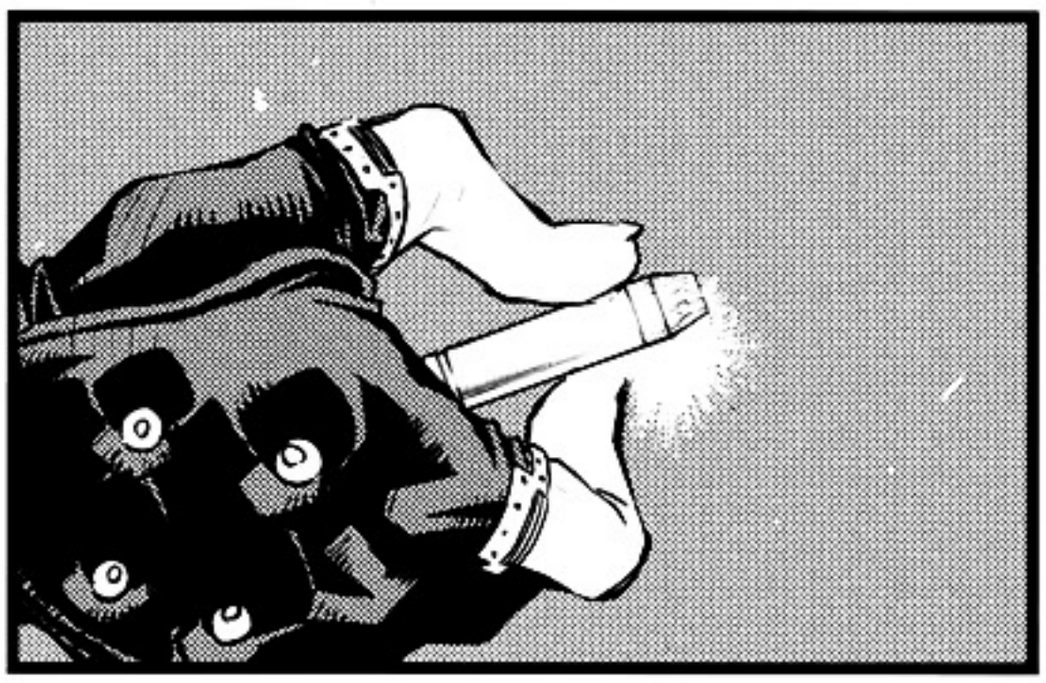
WHAT DID REM TRY TO TELL ME BACK THEN?

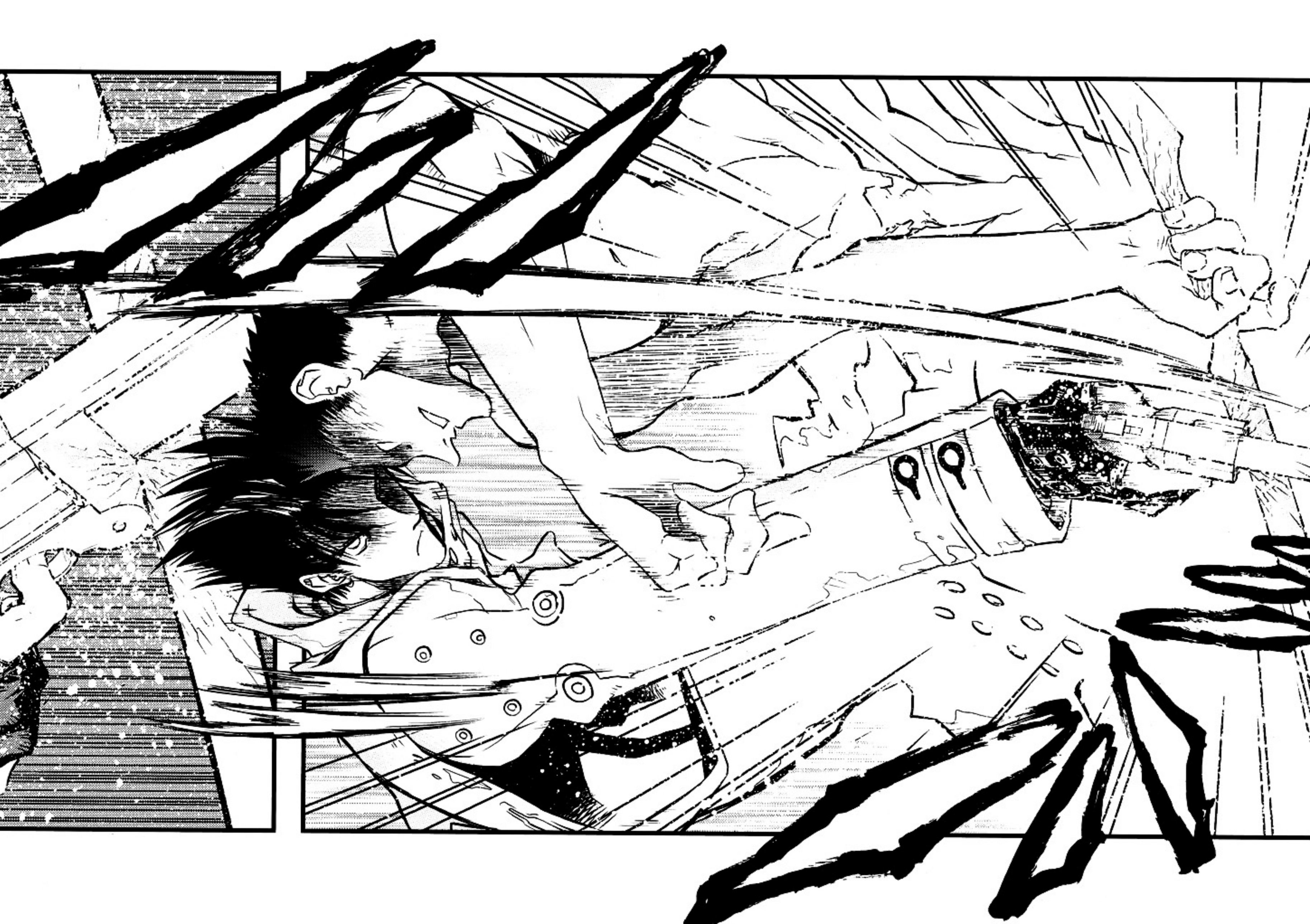
#07. TWIN WINGS



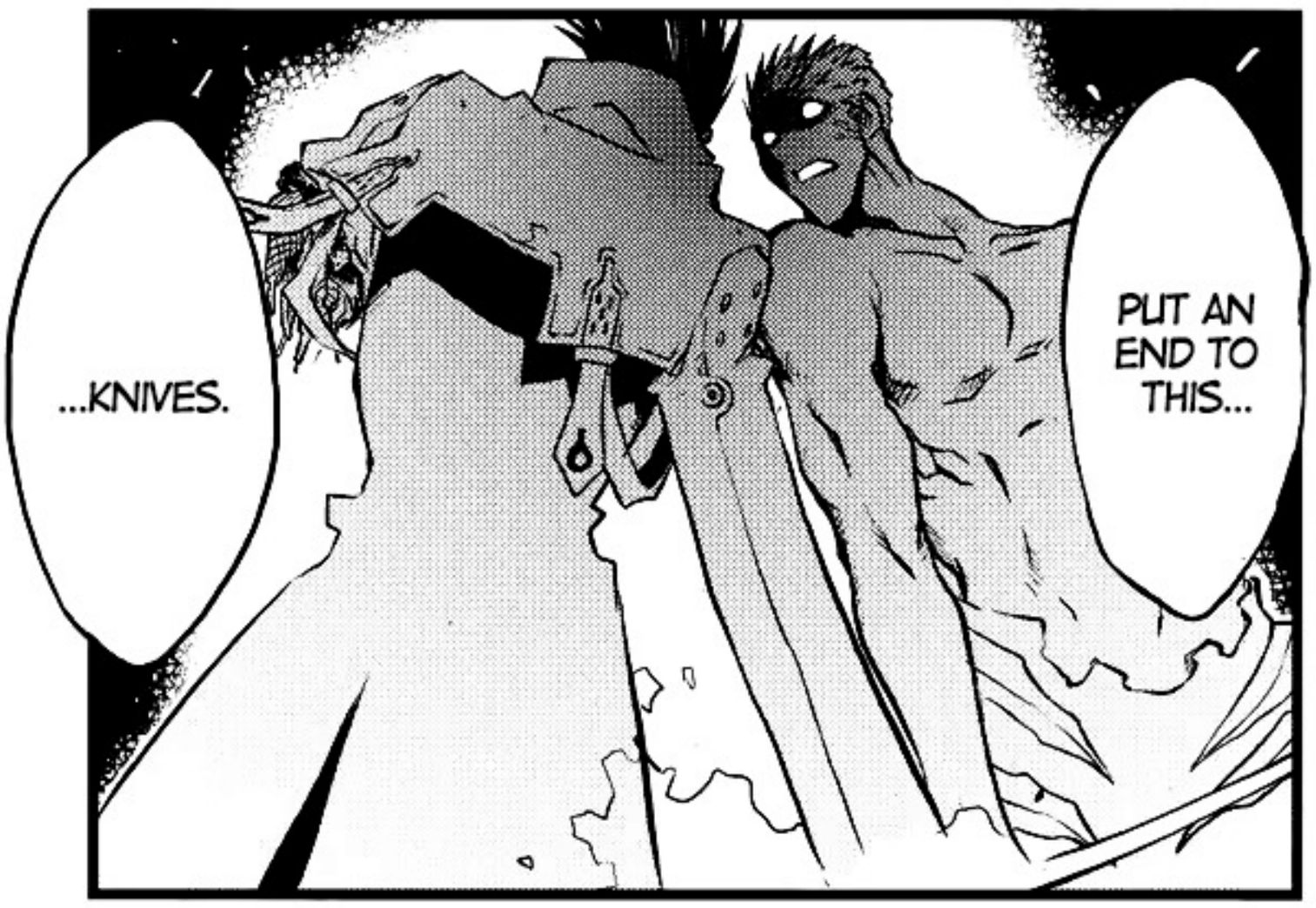






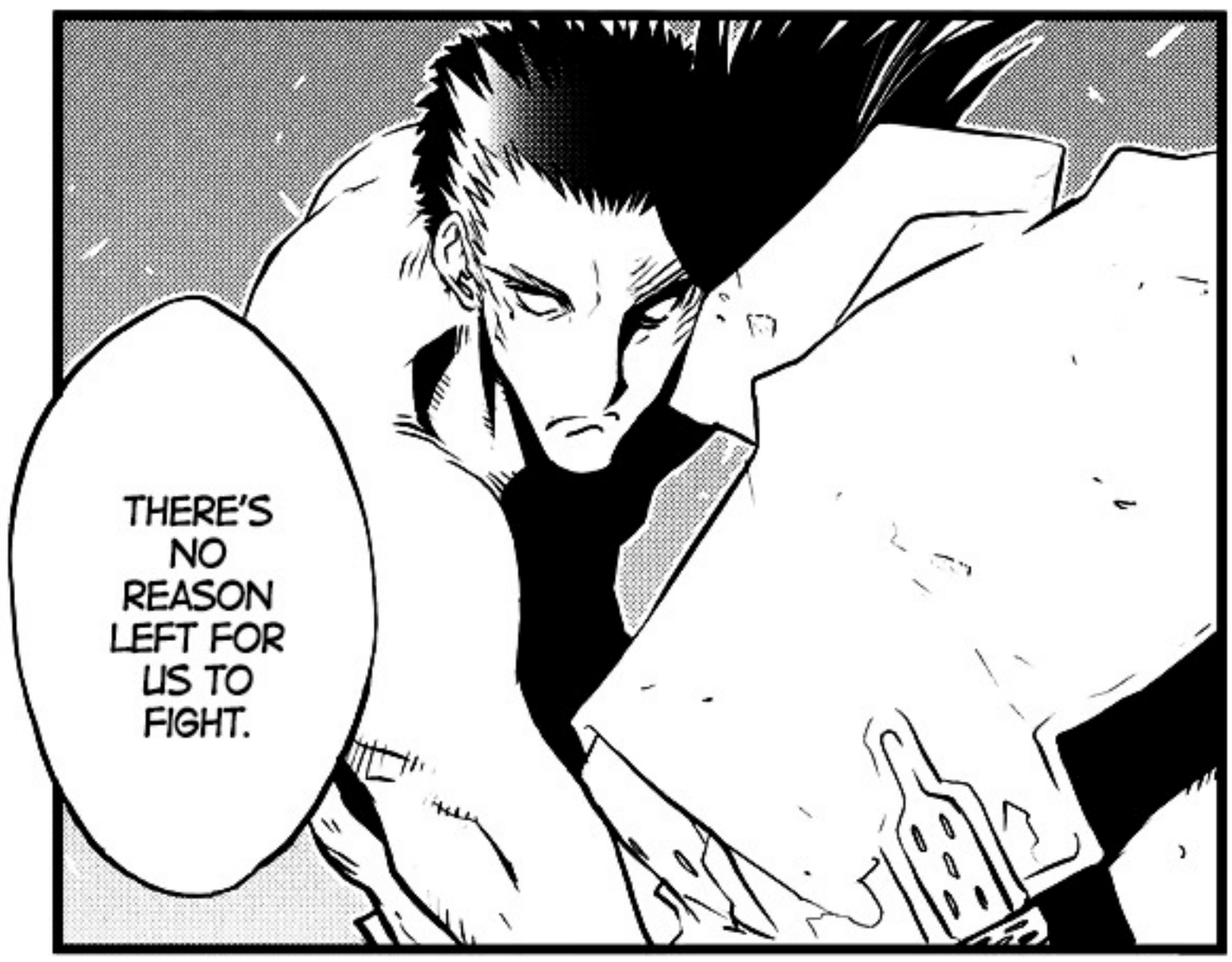


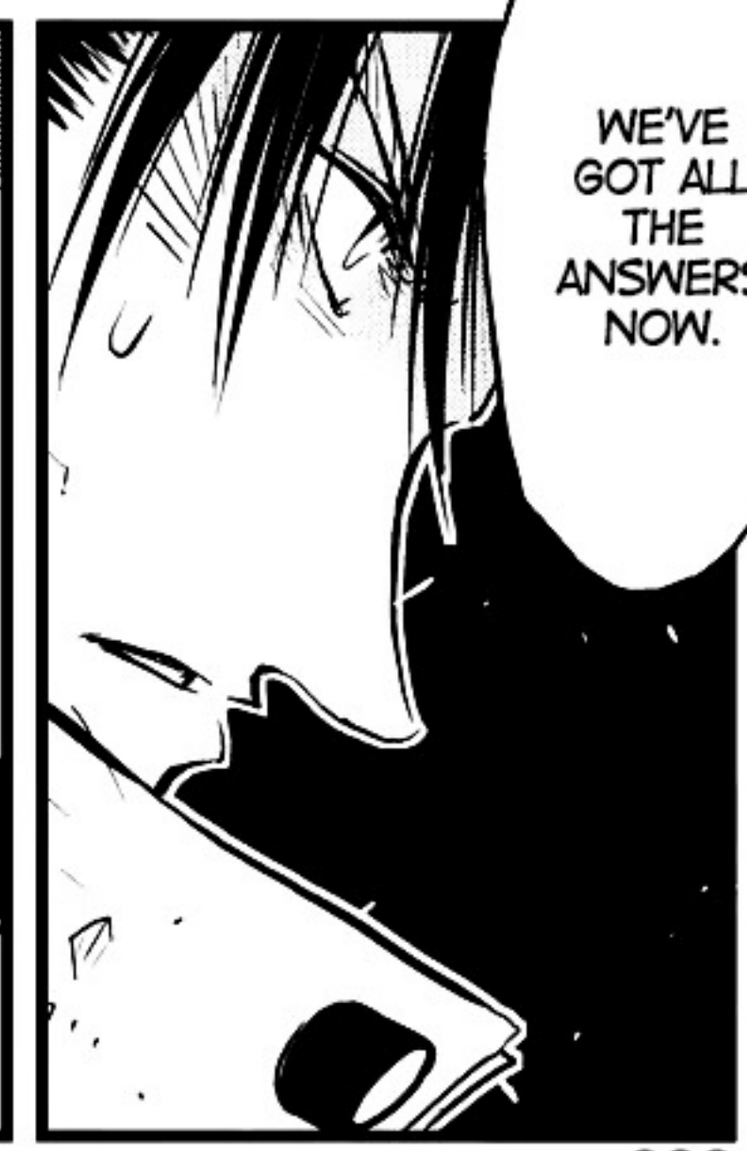
JUST WHY AM I STILL DOING THIS?
FUNNY...
...ISN'T IT?
...HAS ABAN-DONED ME.
EVERY-ONE...
HAD TO USE EVERY LAST BIT OF IT TO RECON-STRUCT MY BODY.
I'M OUT OF ENERGY.


...KNIVES.
PUT AN END TO THIS...

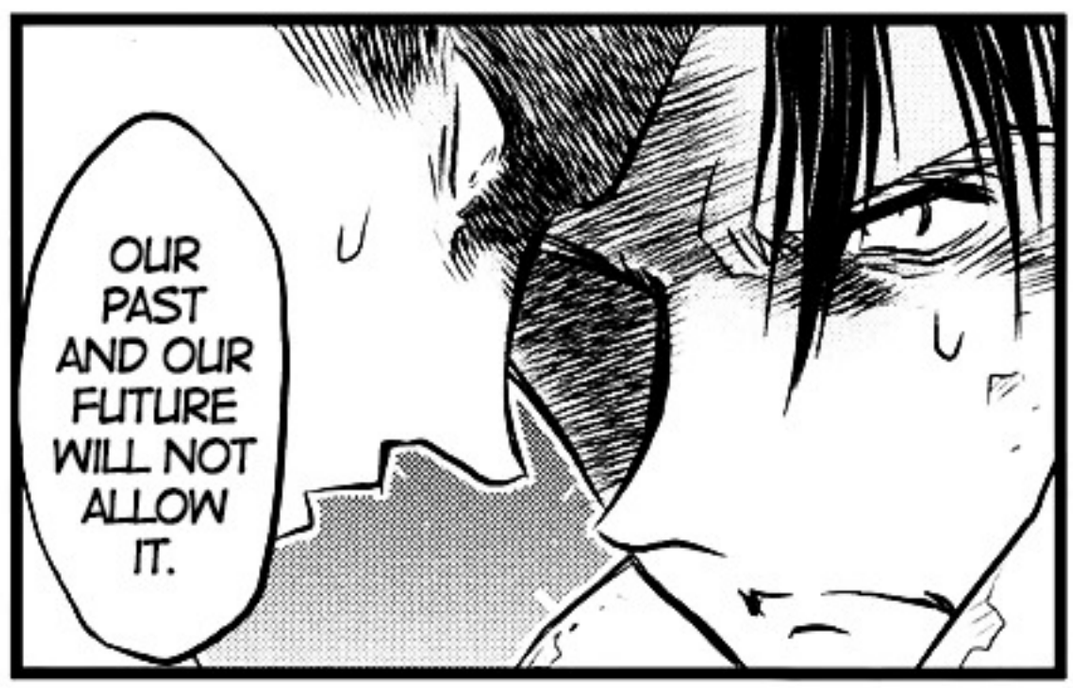
THEN IT'S OVER.

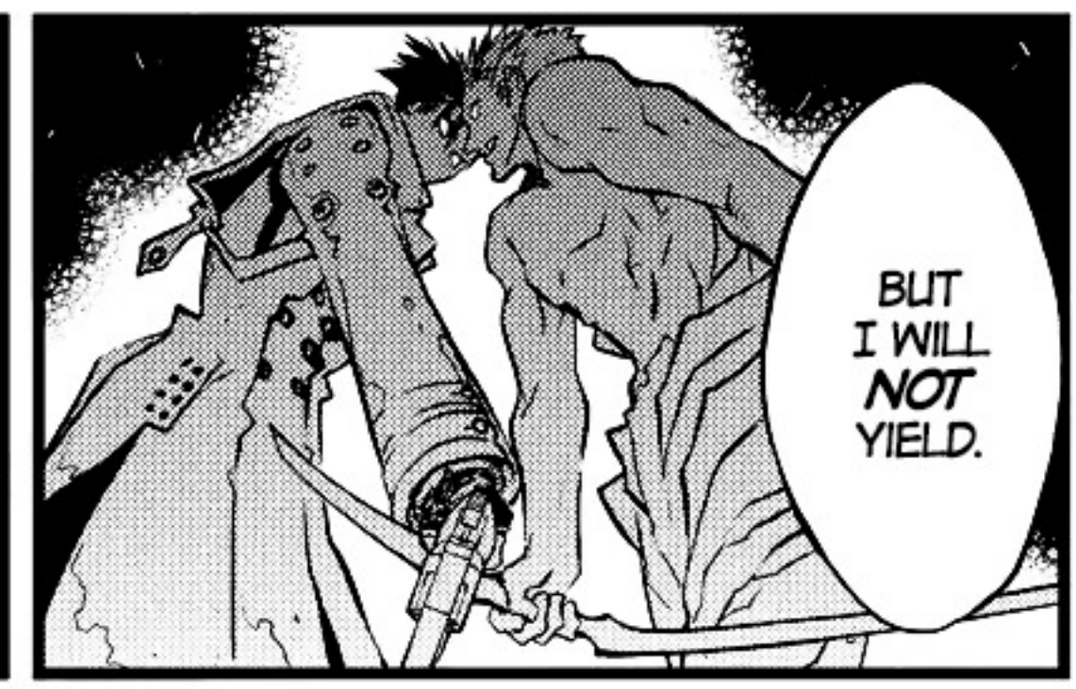
LOOK AROUND.

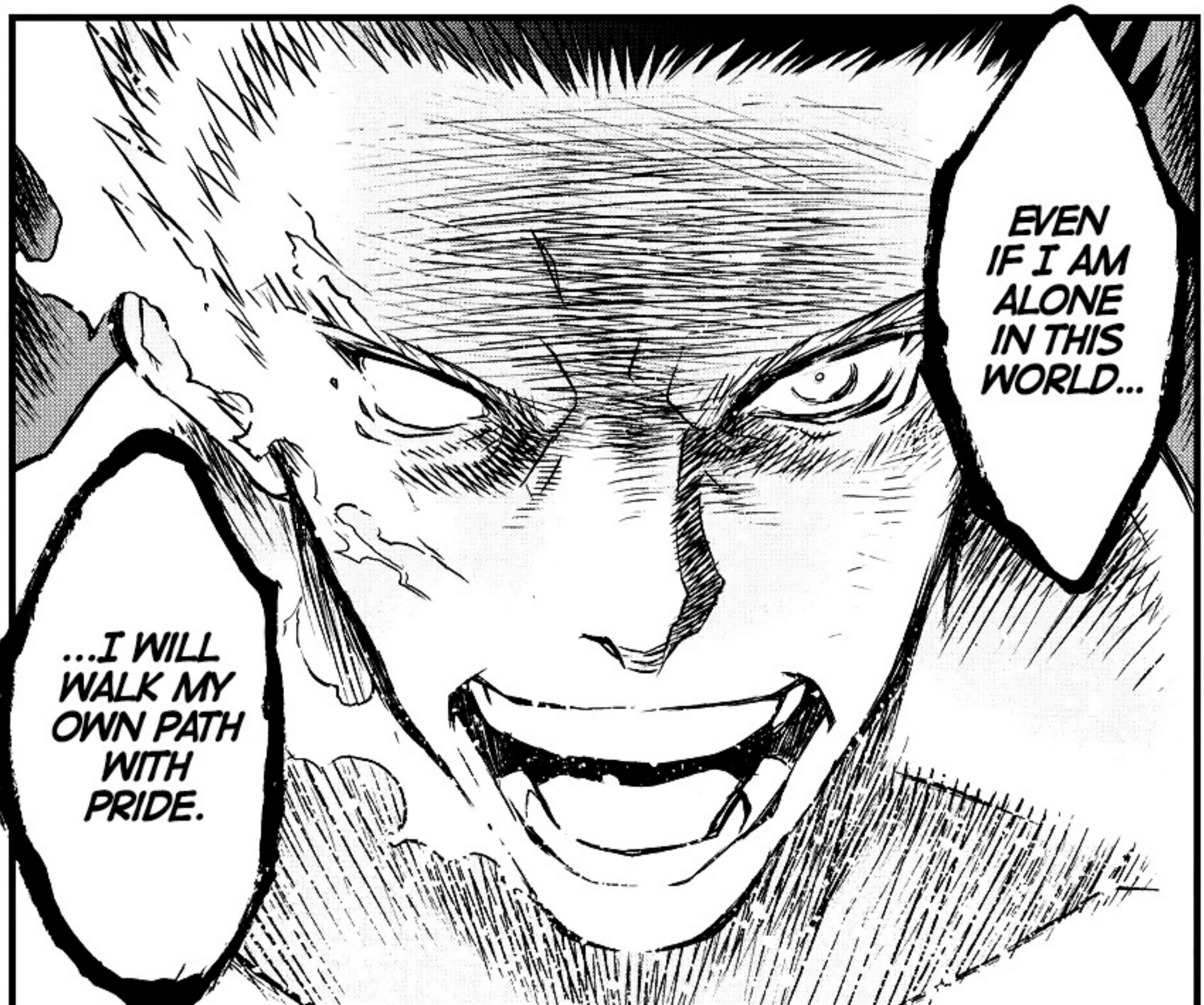

THERE'S NO REASON LEFT FOR US TO FIGHT.

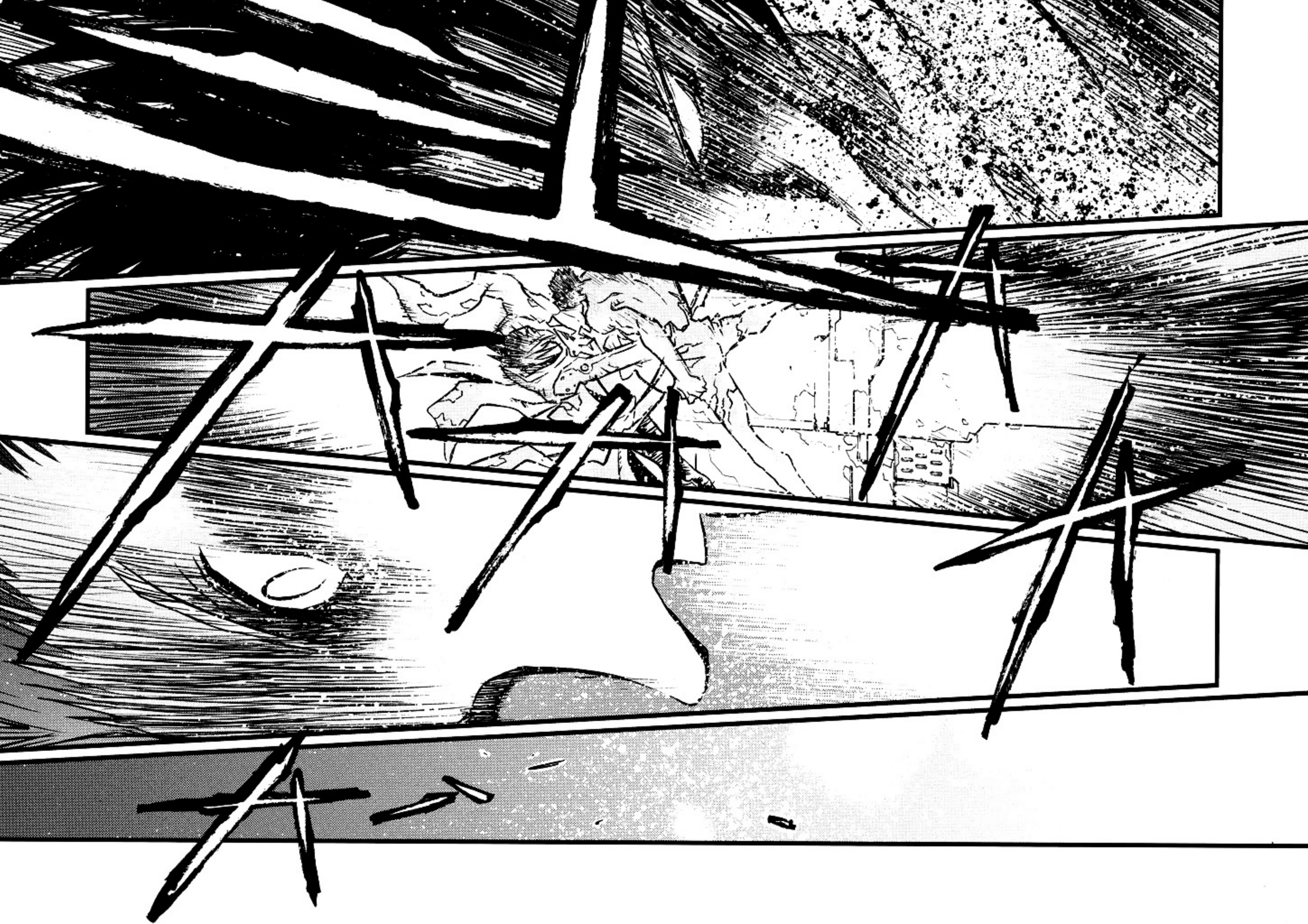

WE'VE GOT ALL THE ANSWERS NOW.

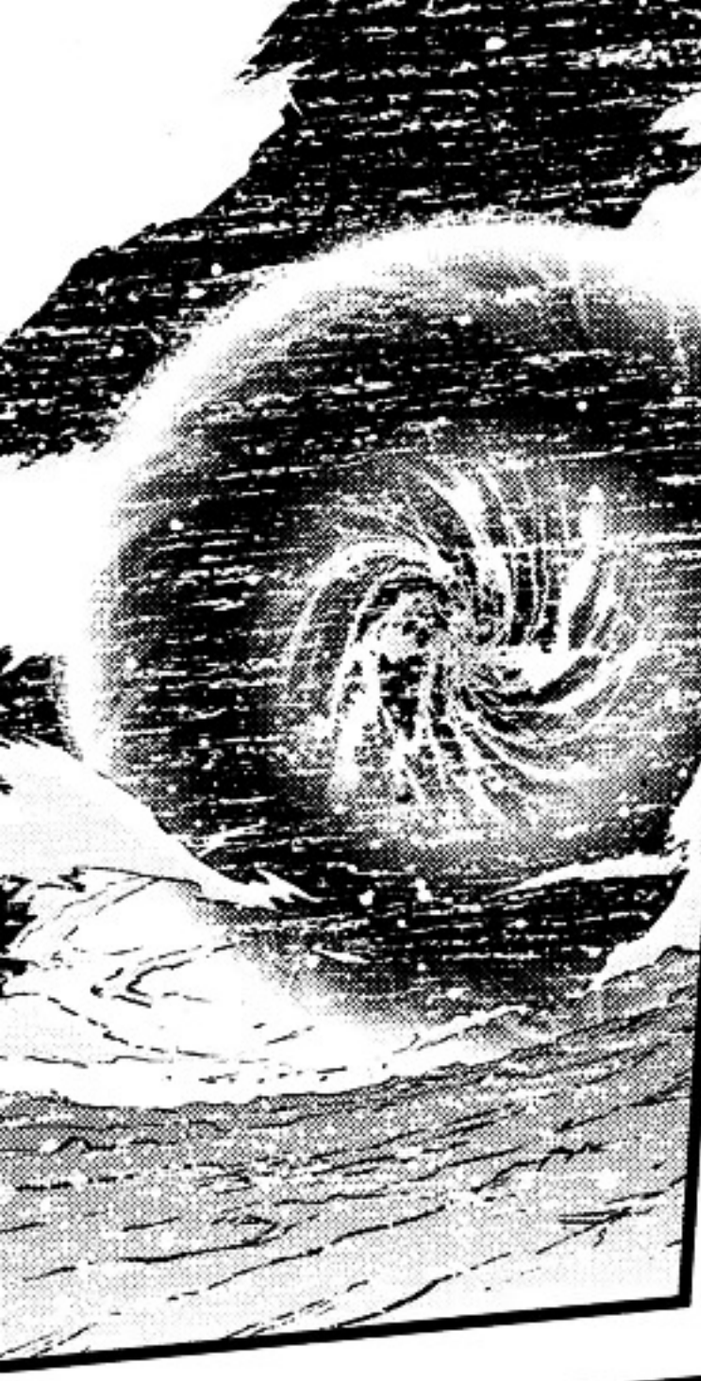
HEH.
THAT'S JUST LIKE YOU.
YOU'VE NEVER CHANGED.


OUR PAST AND OUR FUTURE WILL NOT ALLOW IT.


BUT I WILL NOT YIELD.


EVEN IF I AM ALONE IN THIS WORLD...
...I WILL WALK MY OWN PATH WITH PRIDE.



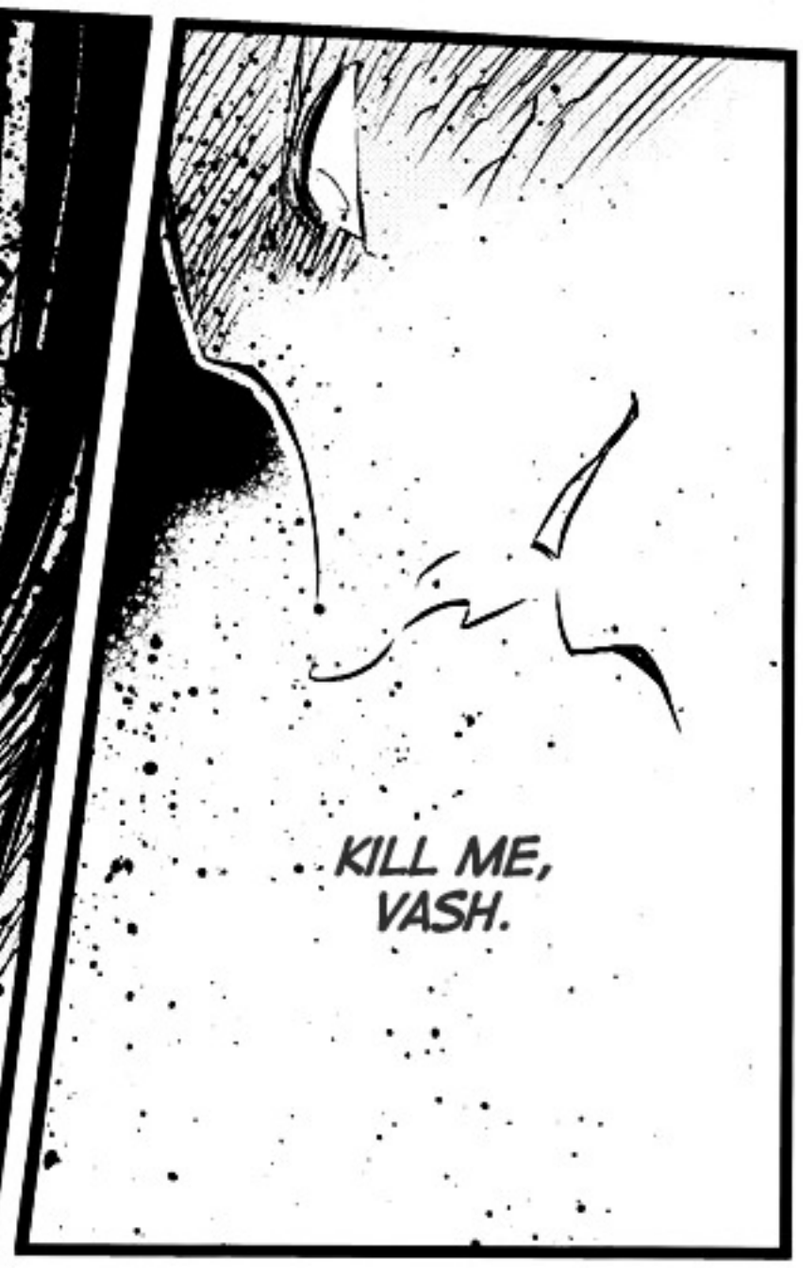


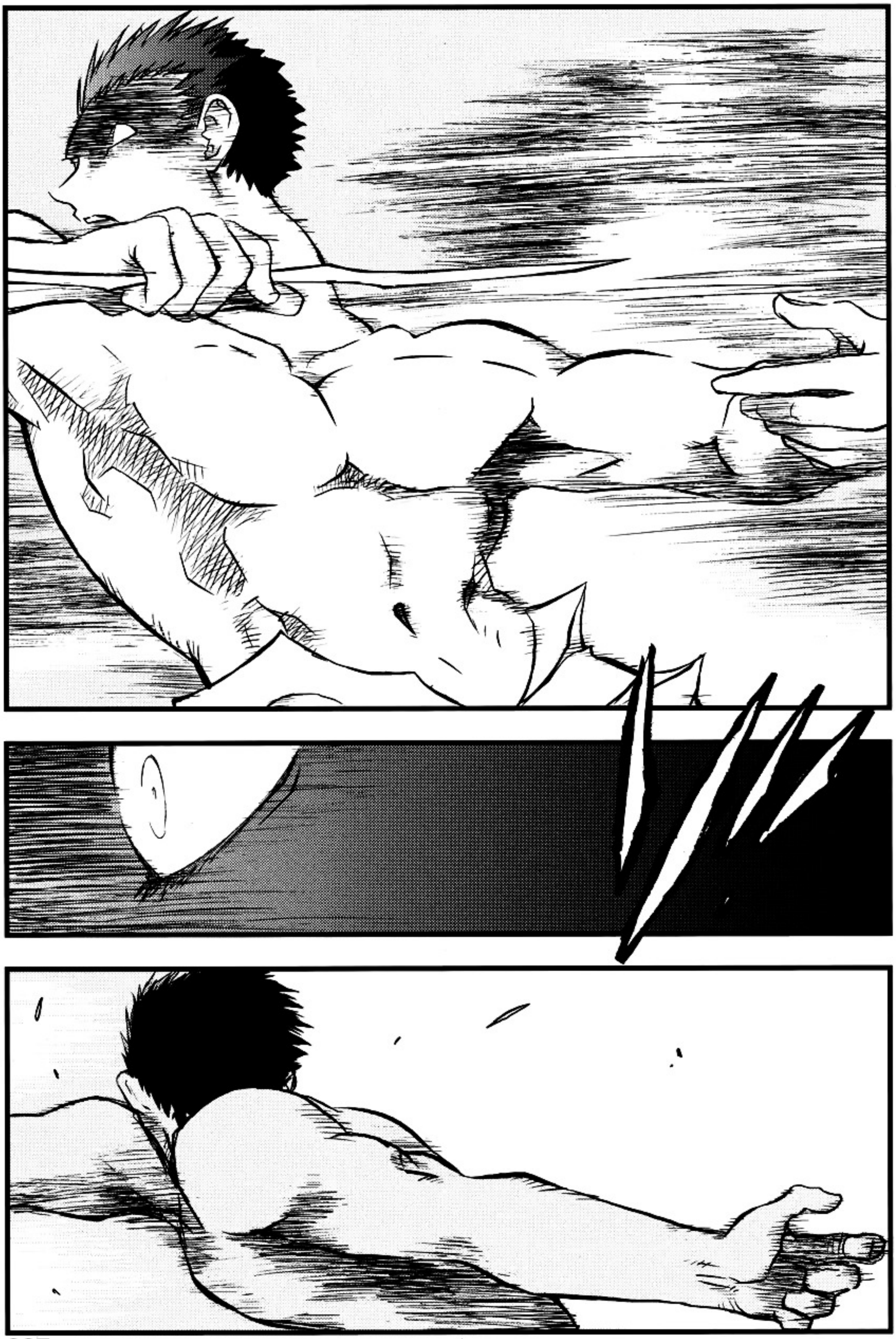
THAT'S RIGHT.
WE'VE COME THIS FAR, CAUGHT UP IN SOMETHING TOO BIG.

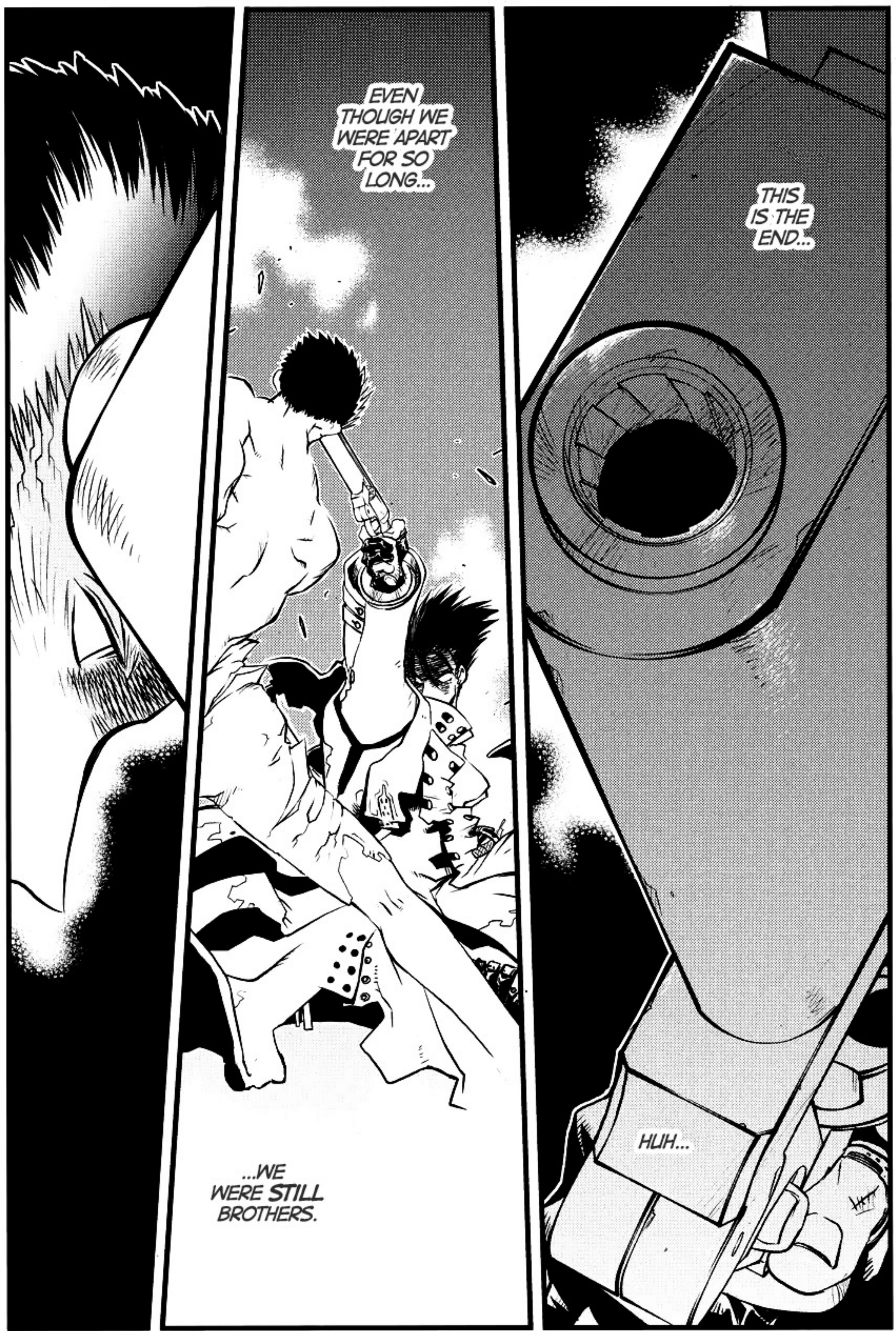
WE CAN NEVER GO BACK TO HOW IT ONCE WAS.

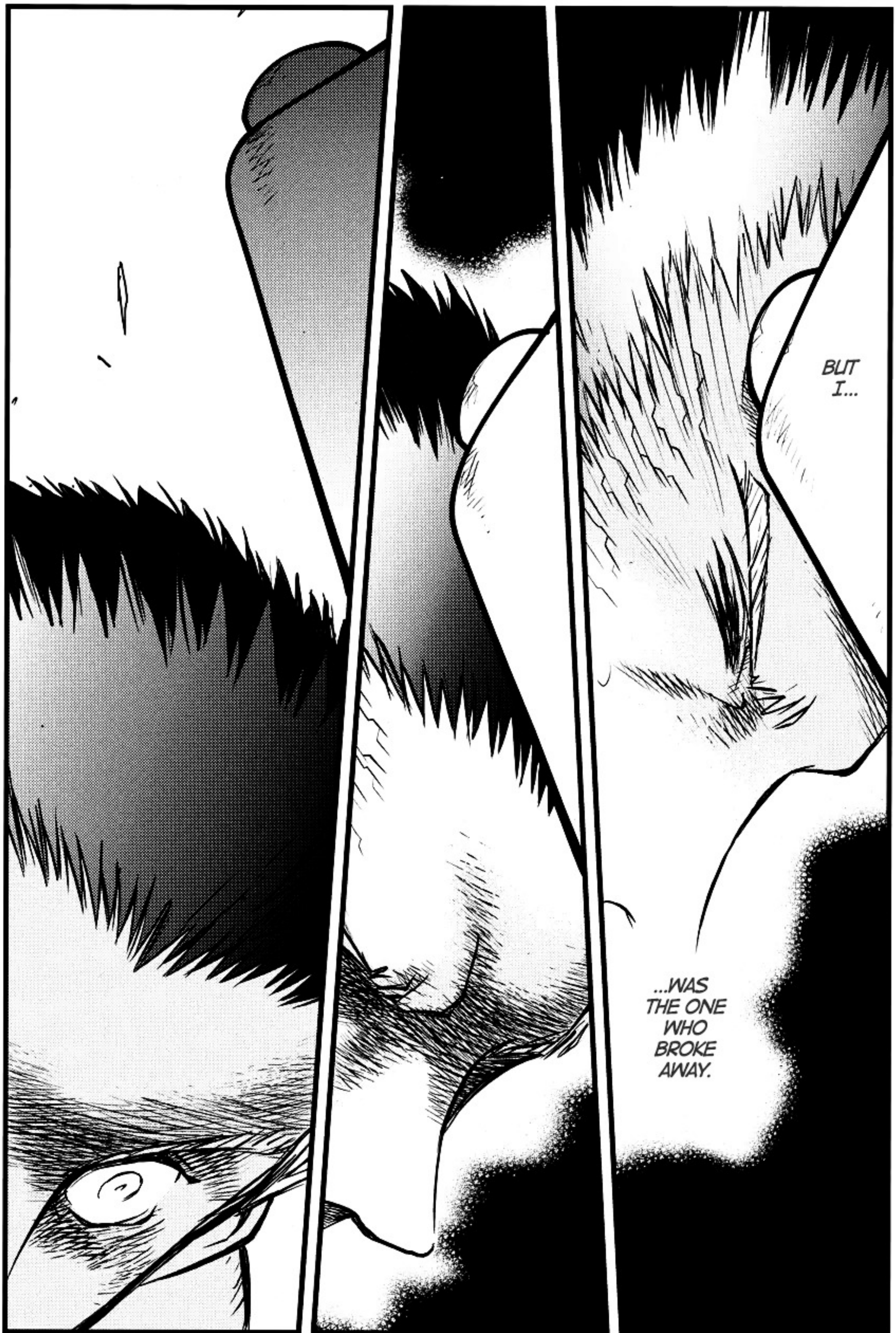
THE SLATE CAN NEVER BE WIPED CLEAN.

THERE'S NOWHERE ELSE FOR ME TO GO!


KILL ME, VASH.



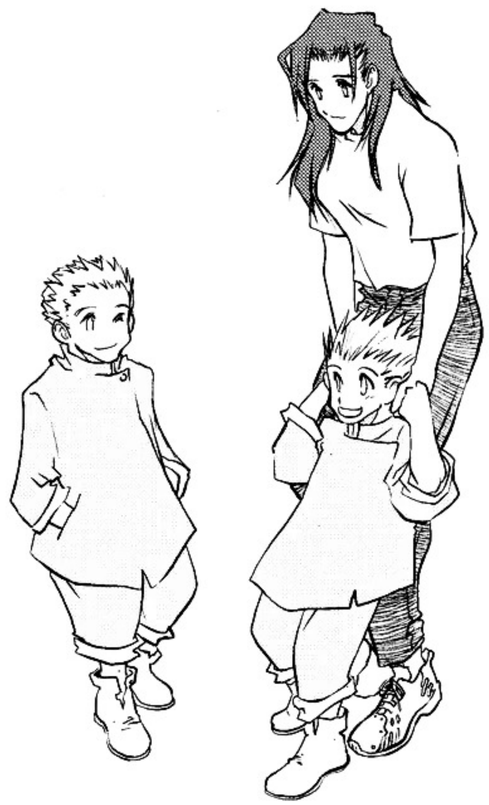

EVEN THOUGH WE WERE APART FOR SO LONG...
...WE WERE STILL BROTHERS.
THIS IS THE END...
HUH...

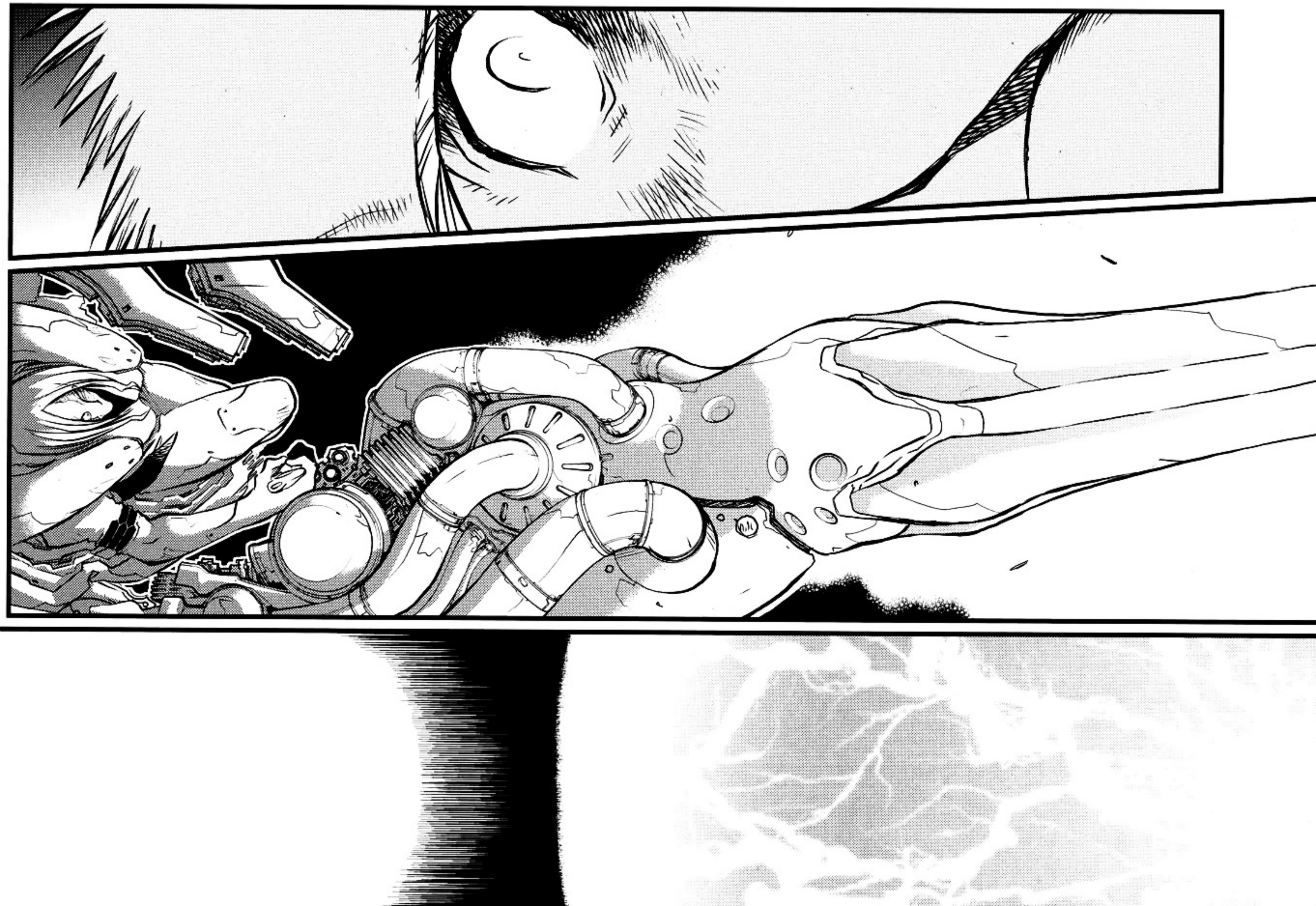

BUT I...
...WAS THE ONE WHO BROKE AWAY.

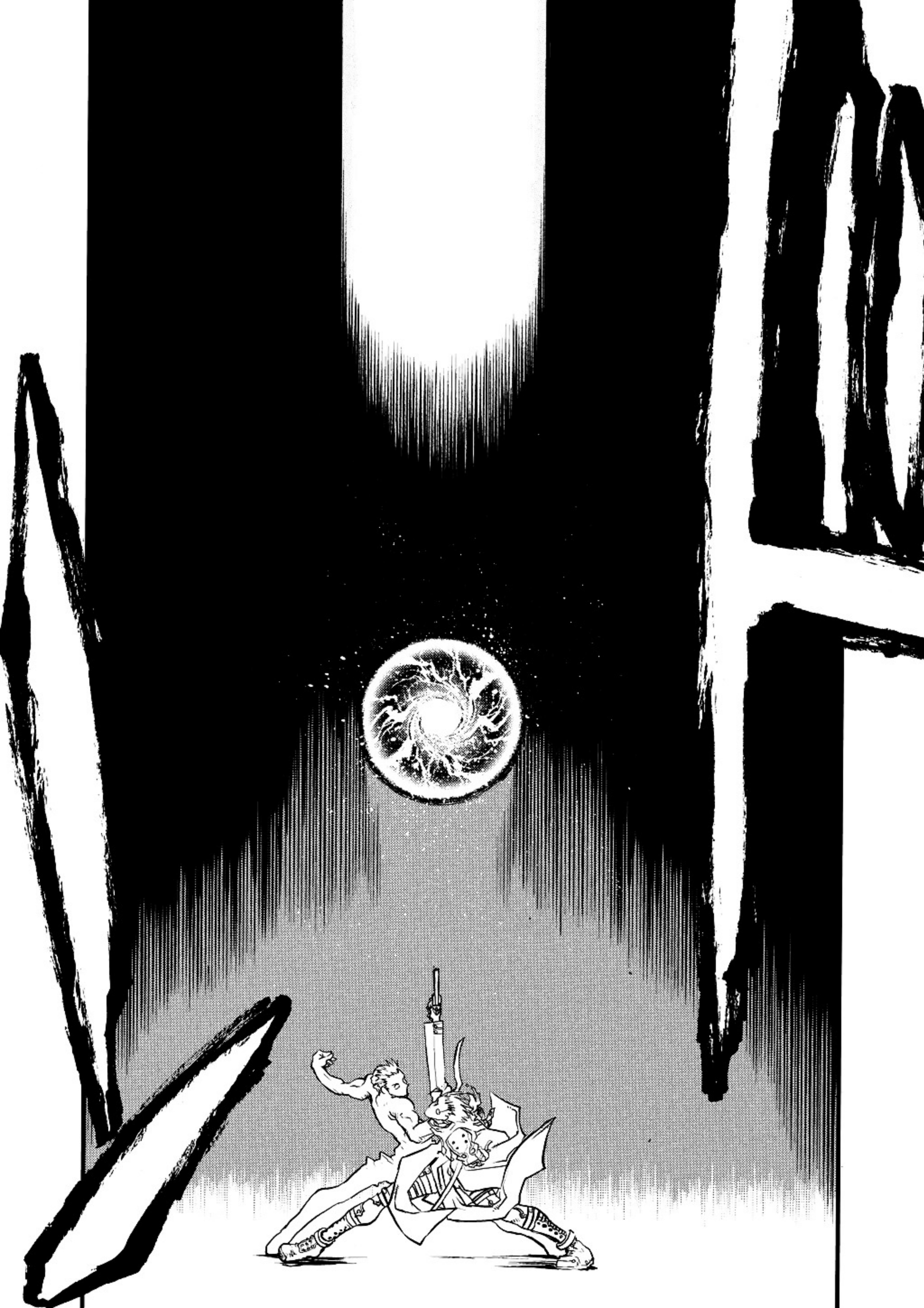
...DON'T LEAVE KNIVES...

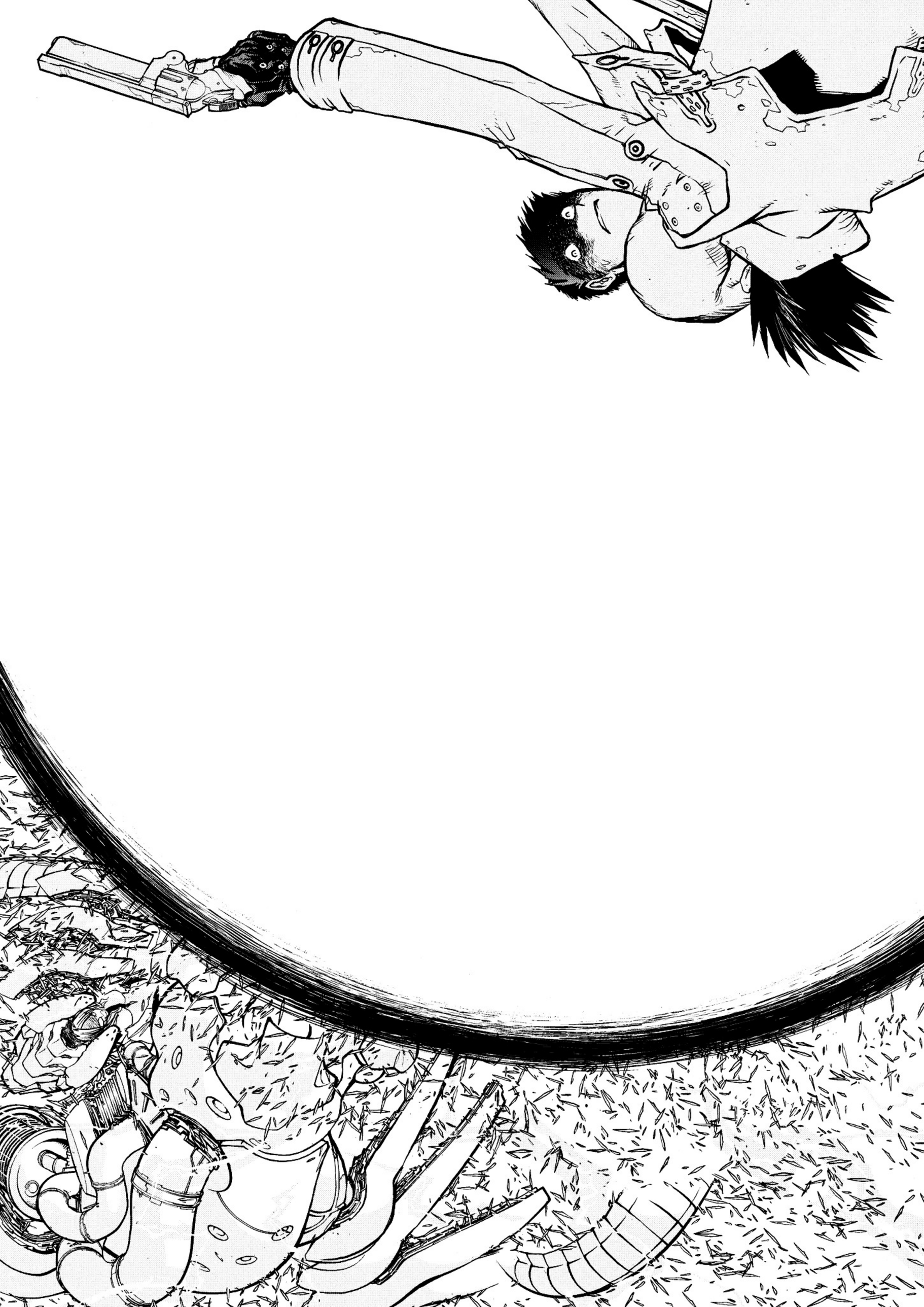
VASH...

...ON HIS OWN.



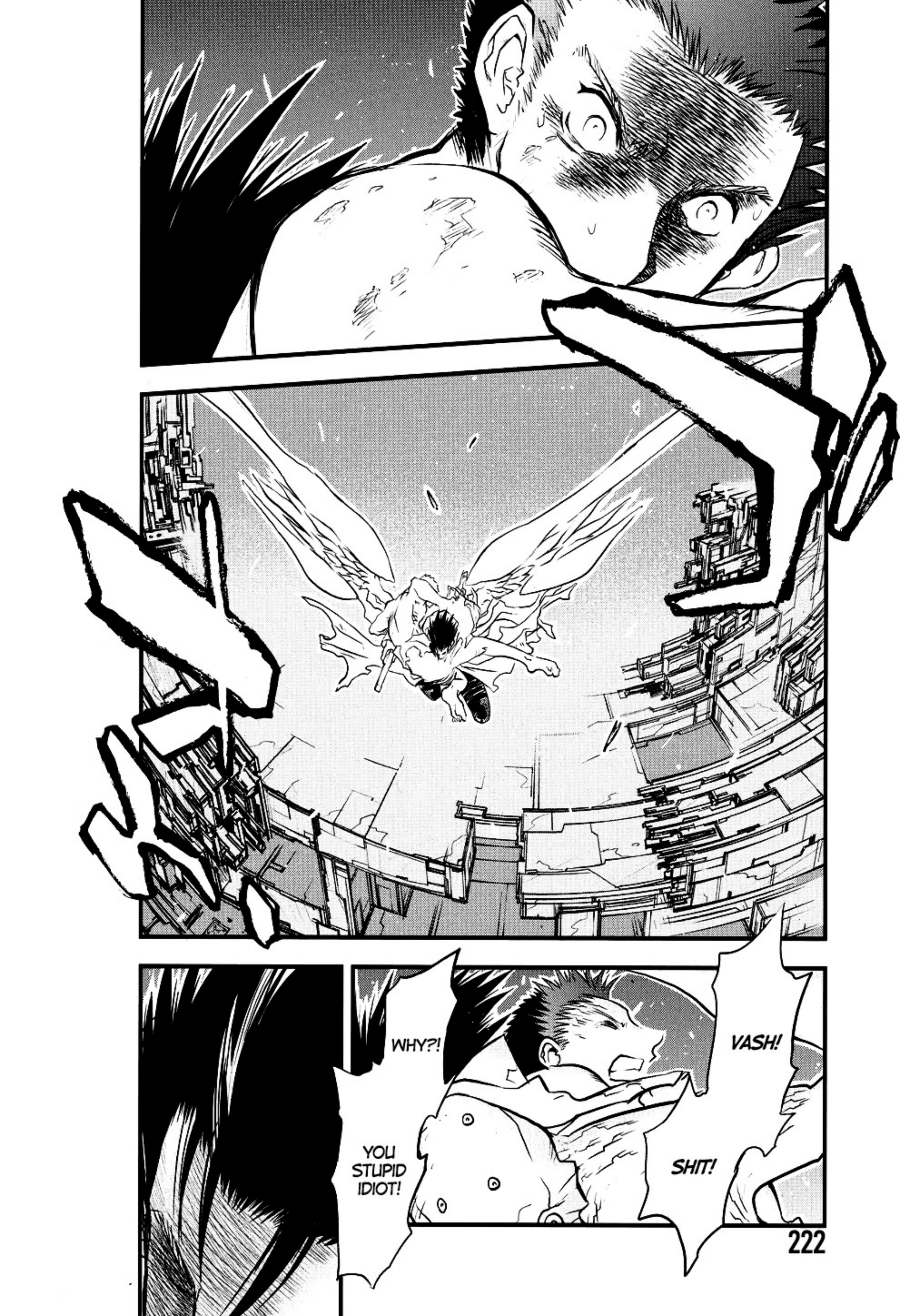




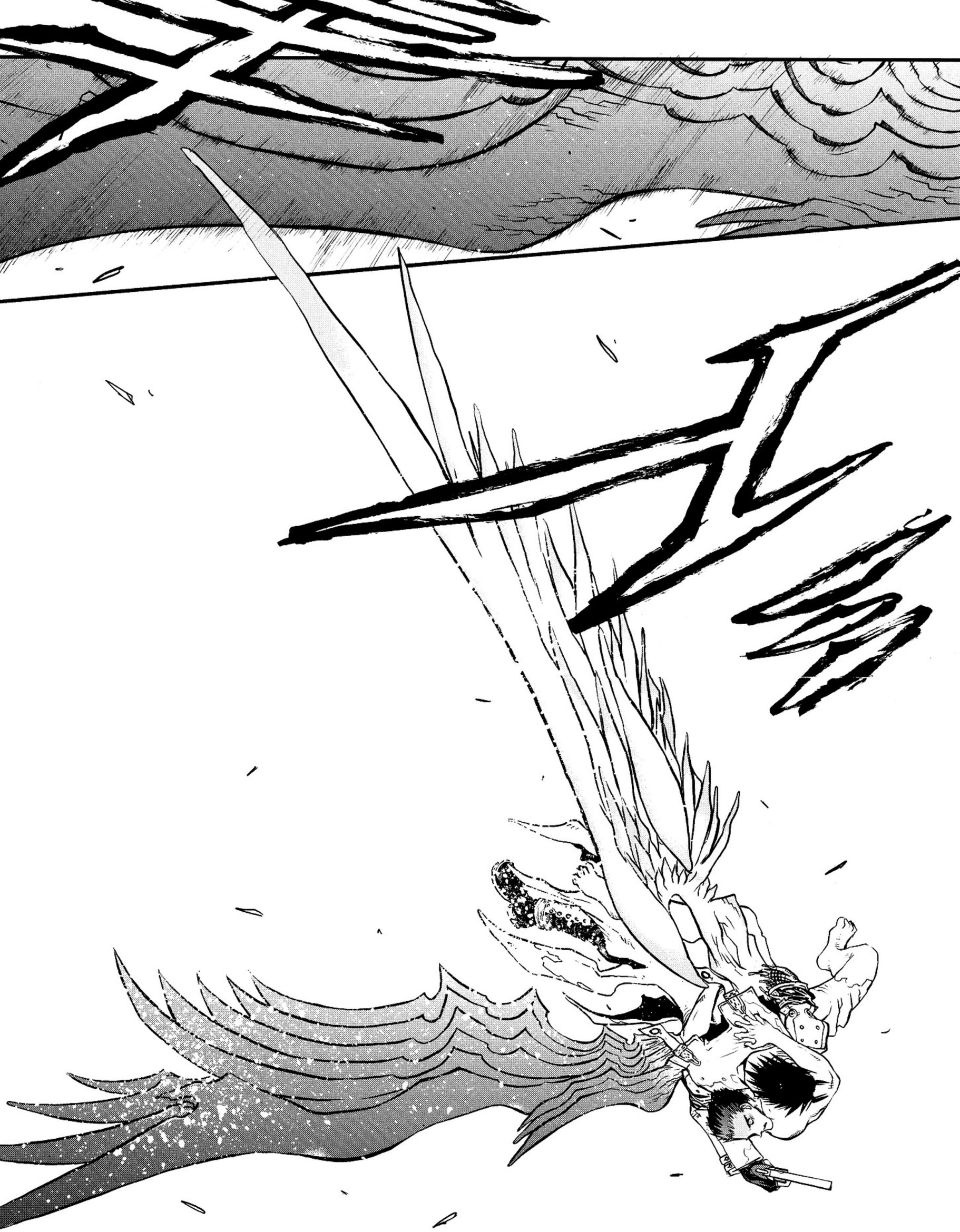


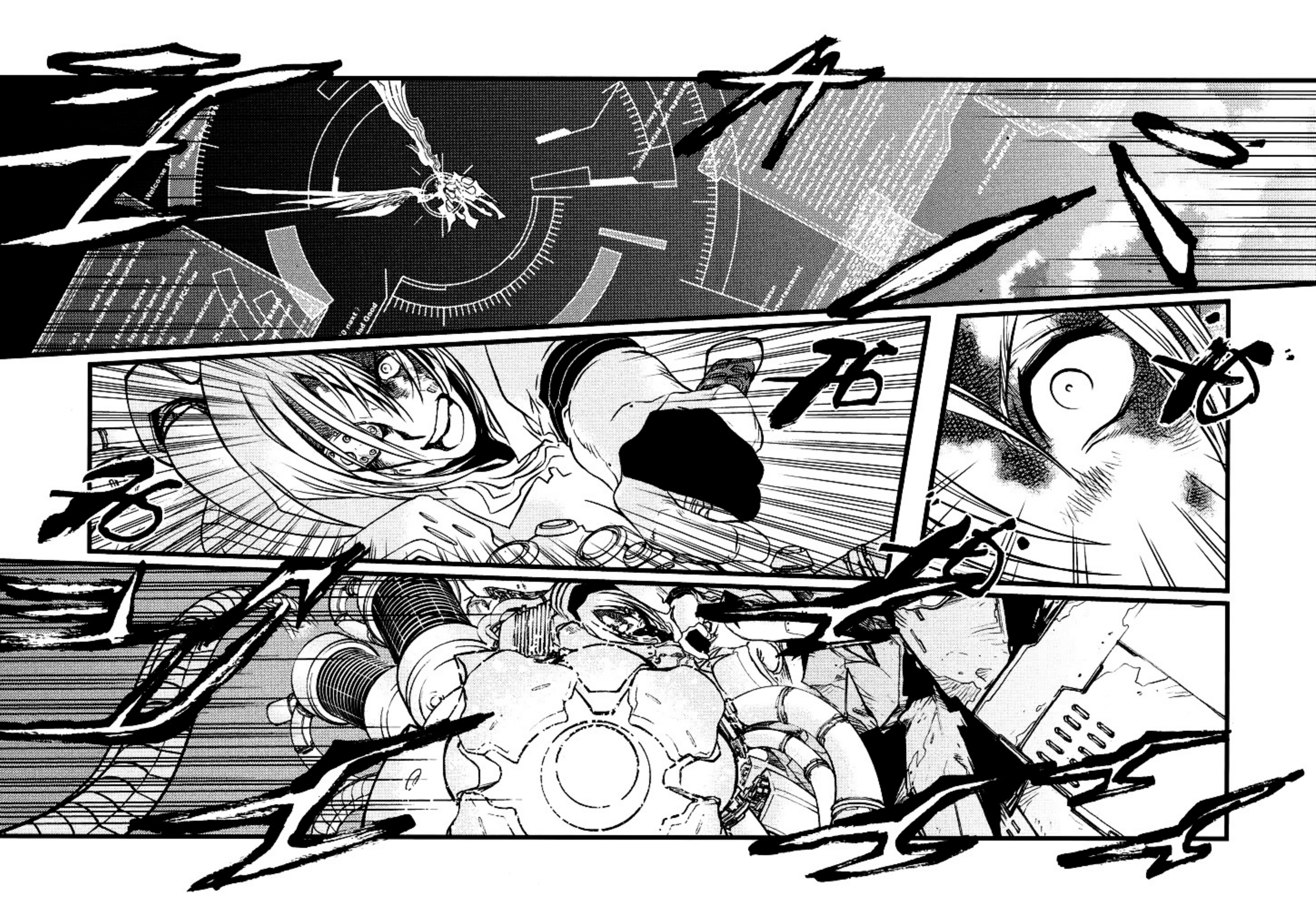
VASH!
!!

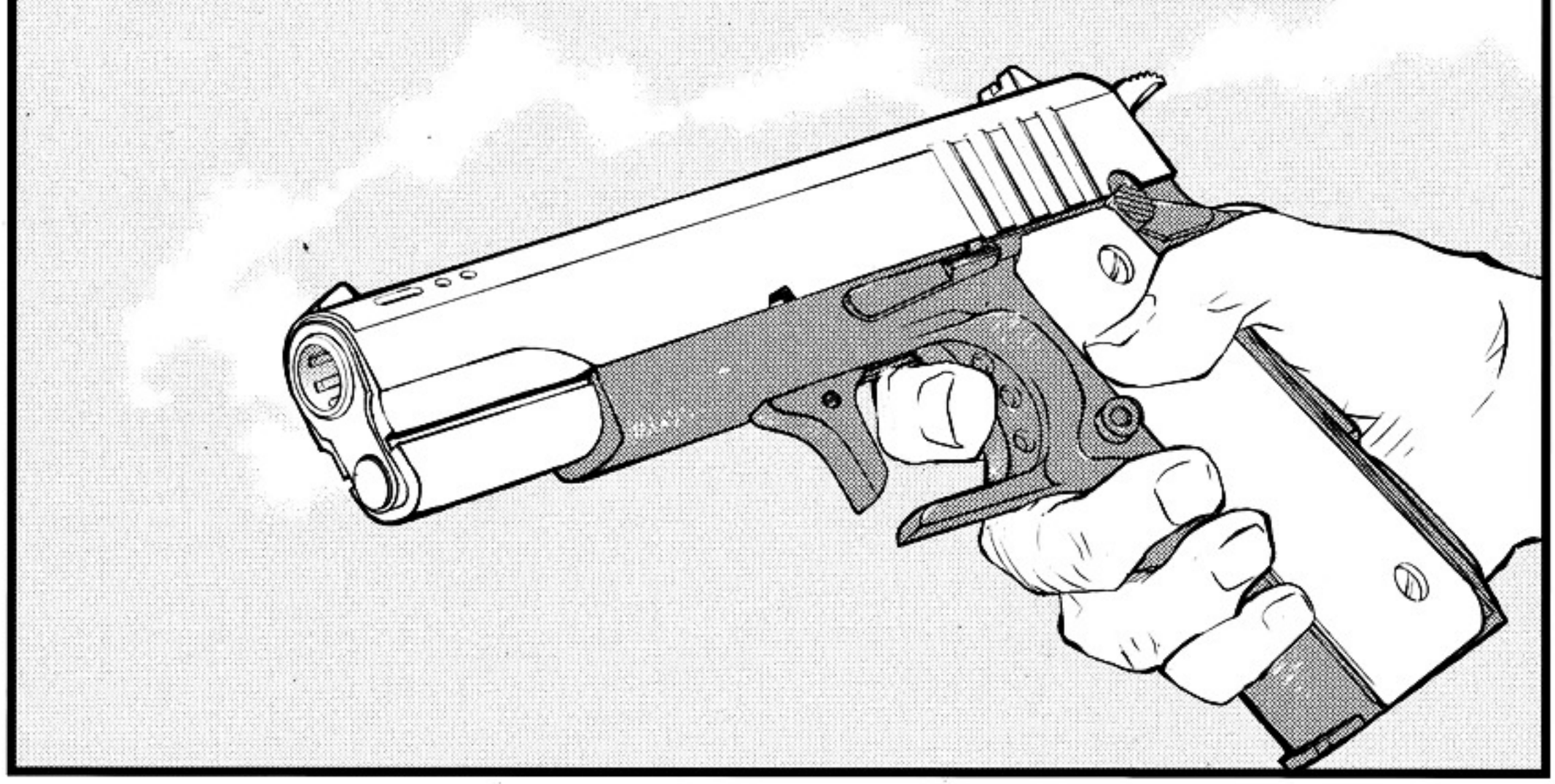
WE'RE GONNA FLY AWAY, KNIVES.


WHY?!
YOU STUPID IDIOT!
VASH!
SHIT!

VASH!





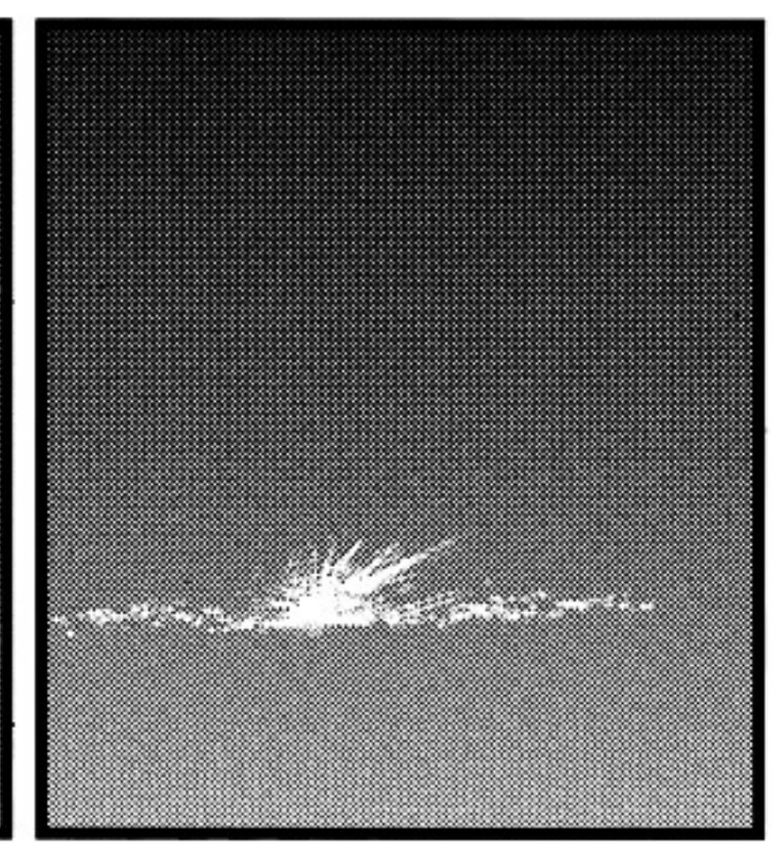


...FOR BEIN' SO RUDE TO A GUEST FROM SO FAR AWAY...
PARDON ME...

YOU WON'T REGRET IT.
I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT, BUT I ASK THAT YA GIVE HIM, AND US, A CHANCE.
...BUT I CAN'T LET YA DO THAT.
OH, AND WELCOME TO *NO MAN'S LAND.*

THAT'S THE NAME OF THIS PLANET.

THAT'S IT.



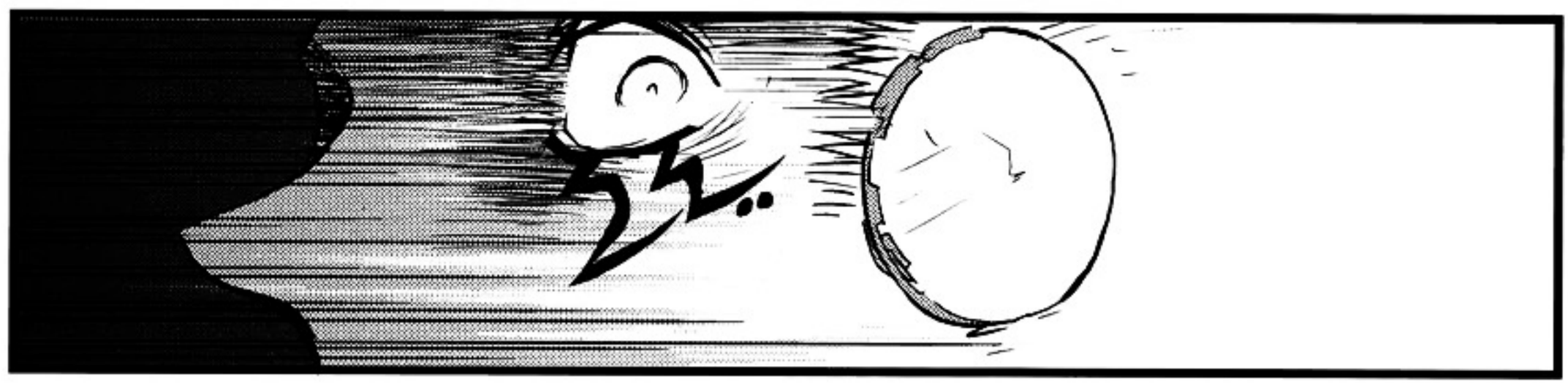
NOT BAD.
GIVIN' YOU AN A+.

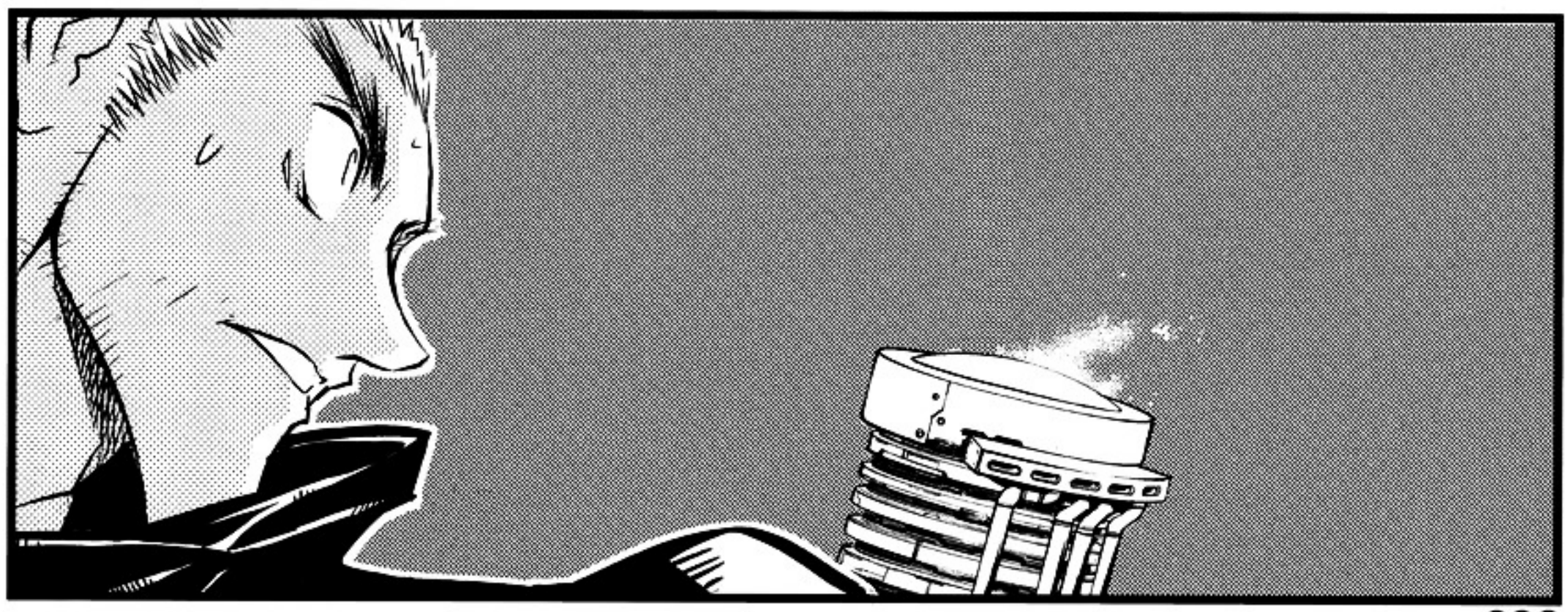
WHEW

KEEP IT UP.

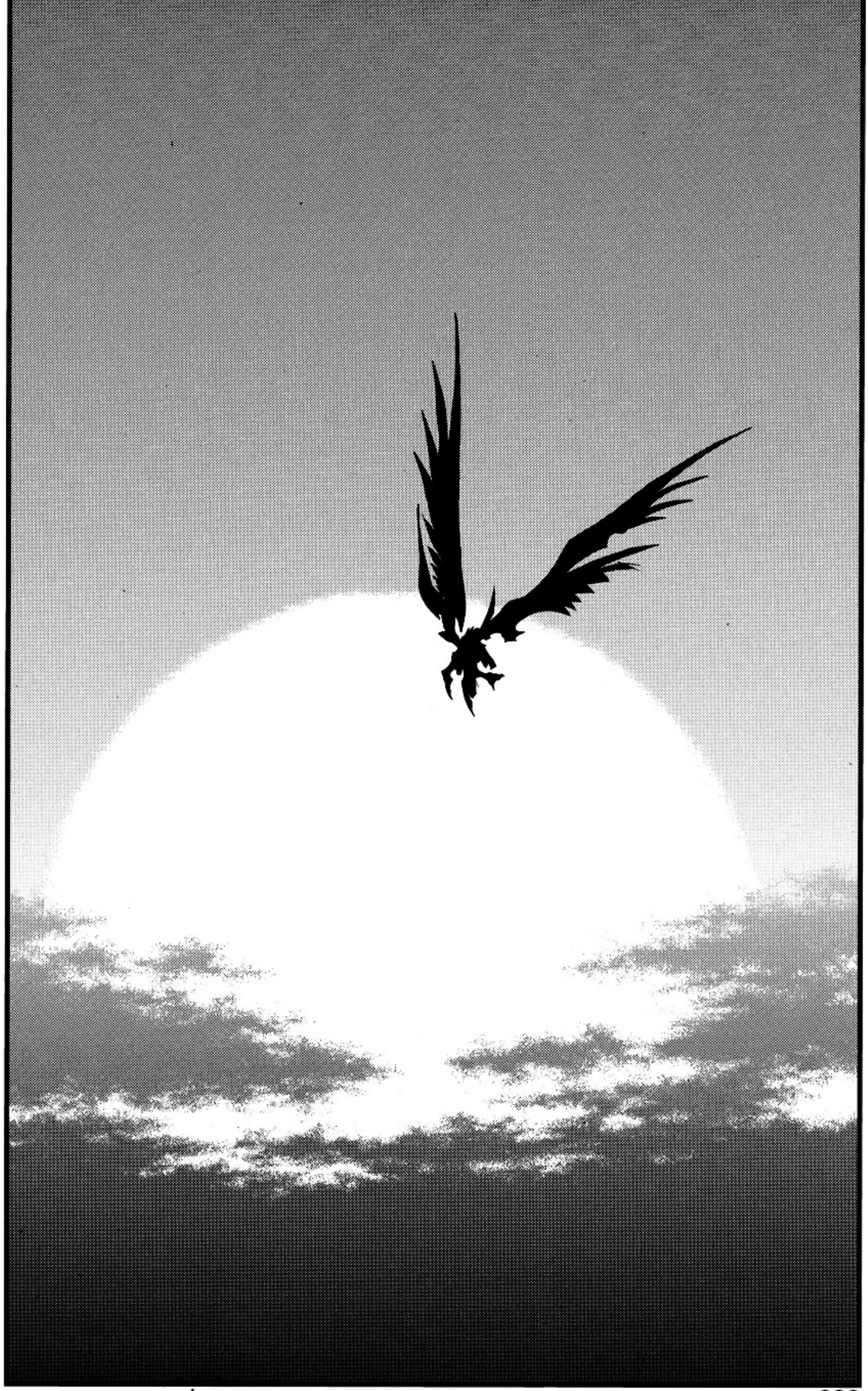
BUT YA STILL HAVE LOTS TO LEARN, CRYBABY LIVIO.

THERE'S STILL MORE TO COME.





...
...
THANK YOU...
...SO MUCH...
MERYL...
YEAH, I SEE THEM...



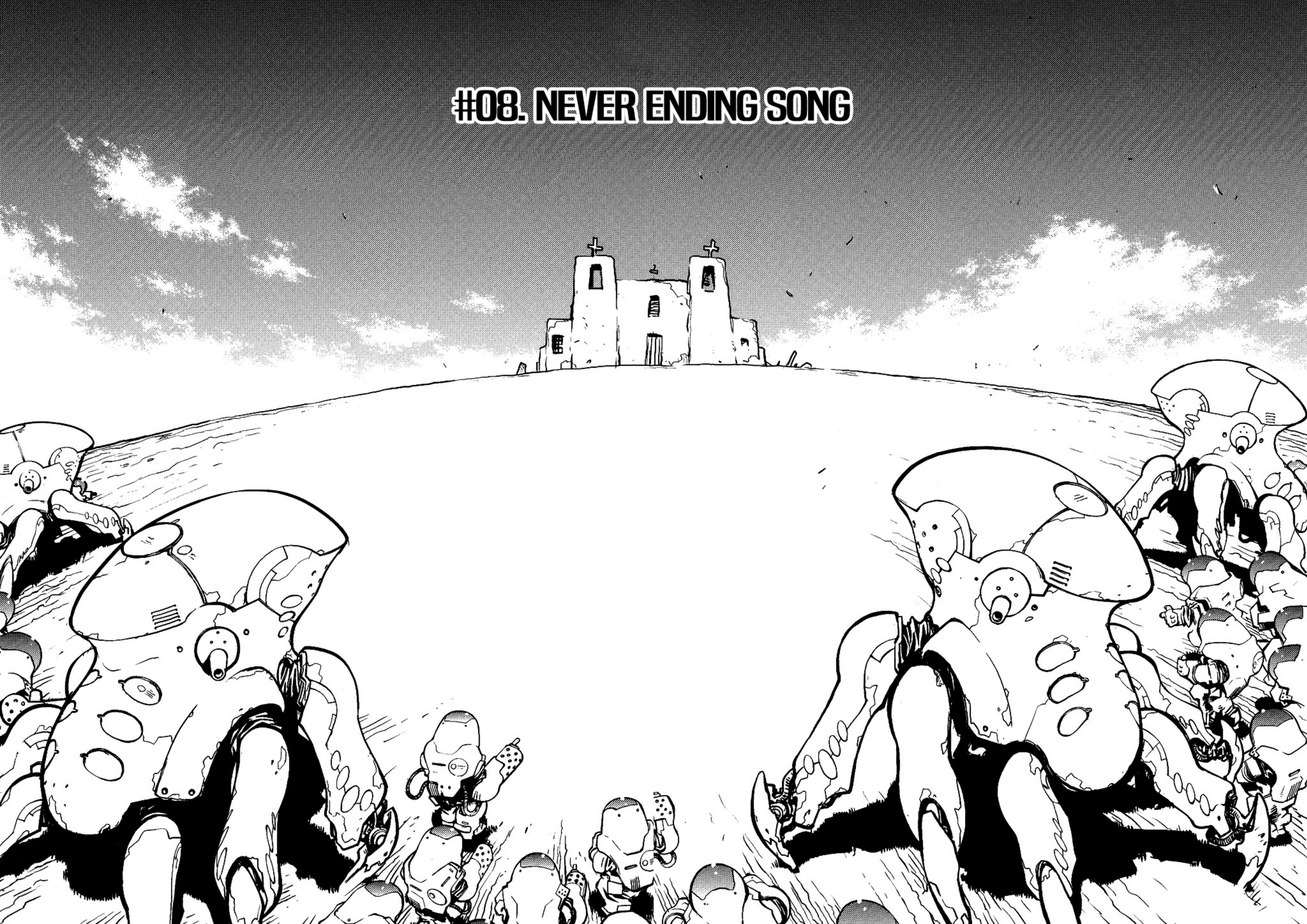
TRIGUN MAXIMUM

YASUHIRO NIGHTOW

DEEP SPACE PLANET FUTURE GUN ACTION!!

FIVE STAR SALOON
BOTH VASH AND KNIVES REMAIN AT LARGE.
SOME ARE QUESTIONING THE EARTH FEDERATION SECURITY FORCES' ONGOING SEARCH FOR THE TWO.
WANTED
HALF A YEAR LATER, RUMORS OF THEIR DEATH HAVE STARTED CIRCULATING.
GIMME A BREAK.
ONLY QUES-TIONIN'?

#08. NEVER ENDING SONG



WHATEVER HAPPENED IN OCTOVERN REALLY SEEMS TO HAVE PISSED THEM OFF.

THE EARTH FORCES BEEN DOIN' NOTHIN' BUT TRYIN' TO ARREST YA AND MANIPULATIN' INFORMATION.

AIN'T THAT RIGHT?

...YEAH.

YEAH, I AGREE.

VASH?

THAT WAS SO AWE-SOME!

DIDN'T YOU SEE THOSE TELEVISIONS IN THE MARKET THE OTHER DAY?!

BUT, *DAD!*

NOT ONE BIT.

I DON'T LIKE HOW THOSE TERRANS ARE MARCHIN' 'ROUND HERE LIKE THAT.

SO I GUESS WE GOTTA LIVE WITH 'EM.

EVEN WITHOUT THE ARK SITUATION, WE WERE HEADIN' FOR RUIN.

PLANET TIMES

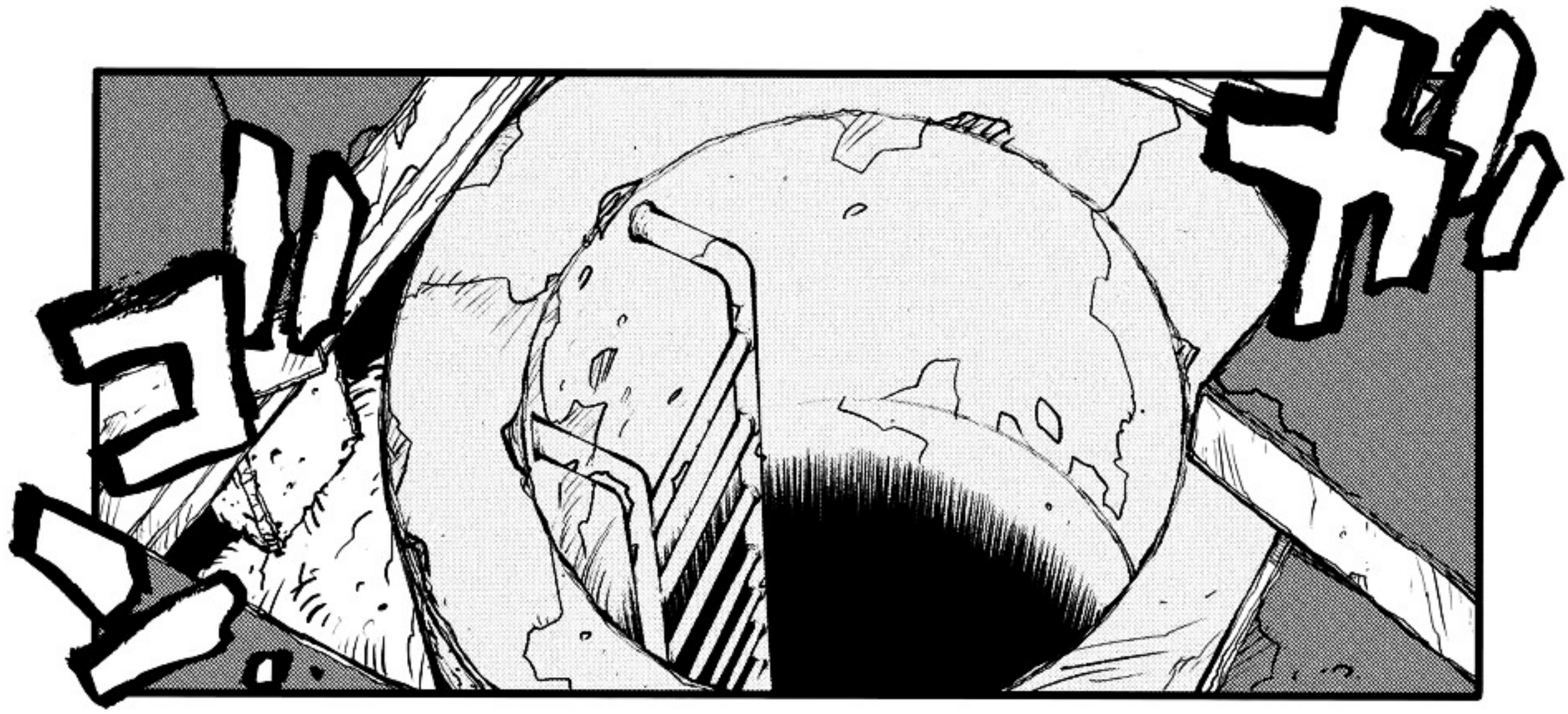
PLANT DOME

BUT IN THE END, THERE AIN'T NO DENYIN' THAT THE EARTH PEOPLE SAVED US.

HEY! YOU WERE AMAZED WHEN YOU SAW THEM TOO!

AH, KIDS, SO GOOD AND EASILY AMUSED.

OCTVERN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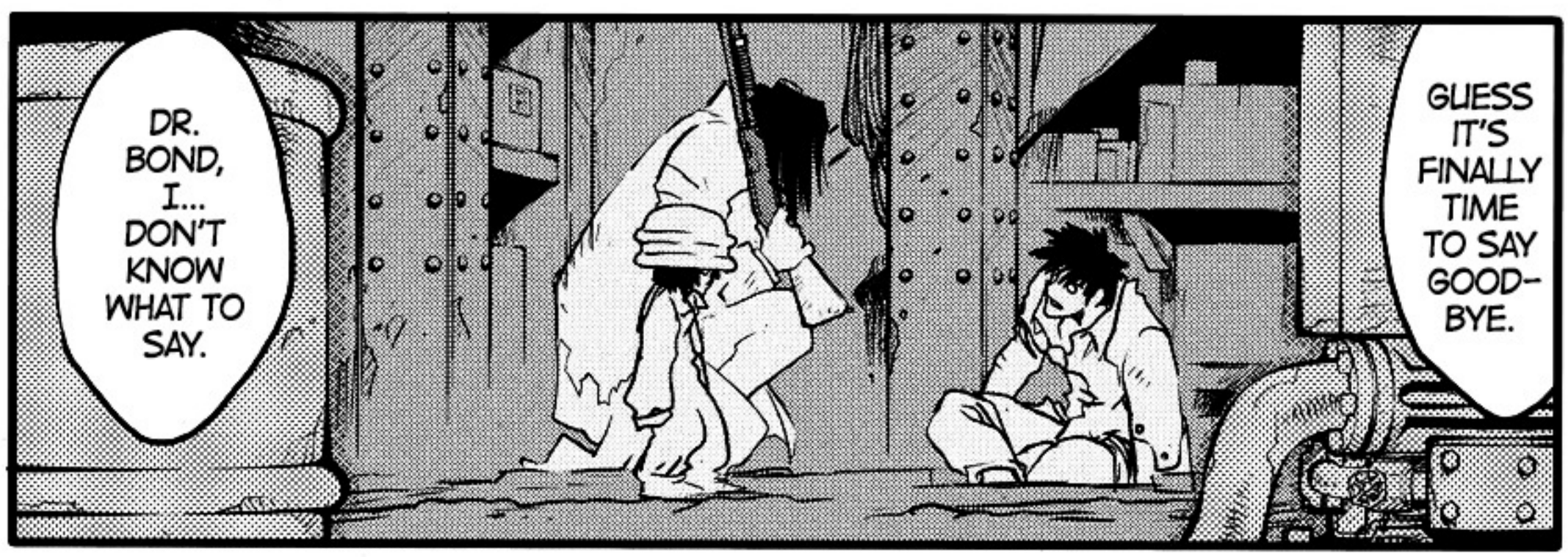
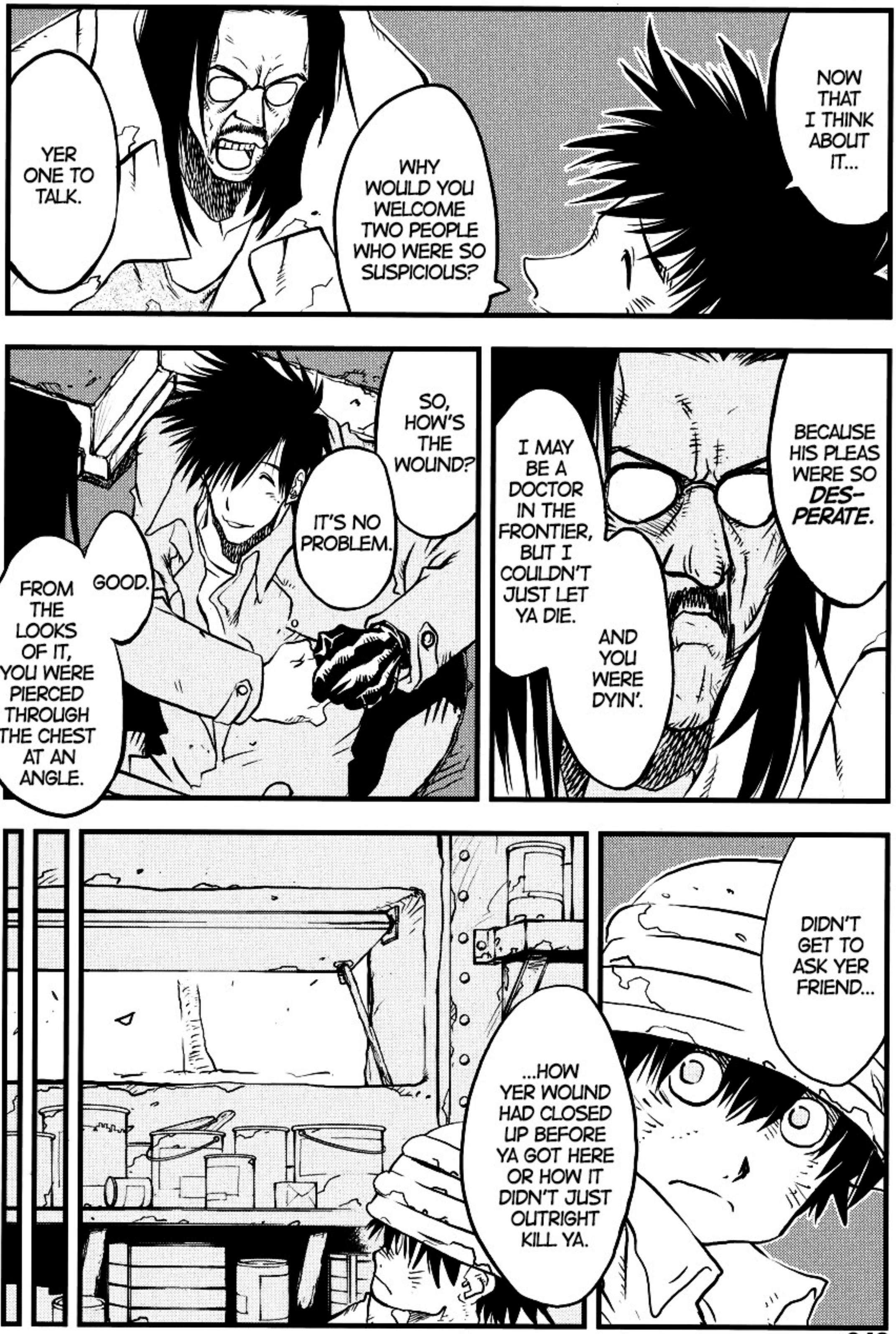

DR. BOND, I... DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
GUESS IT'S FINALLY TIME TO SAY GOOD-BYE.

WE GOT A LOTTA EXCITEMENT IN OUR LIVES BECAUSE OF YOU.
DON'T GET ALL WEEPY ON ME, VASH.
I'M SORRY.

CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S ALREADY BEEN SIX MONTHS.
TIME'S BEEN GOIN' BY SO FAST.

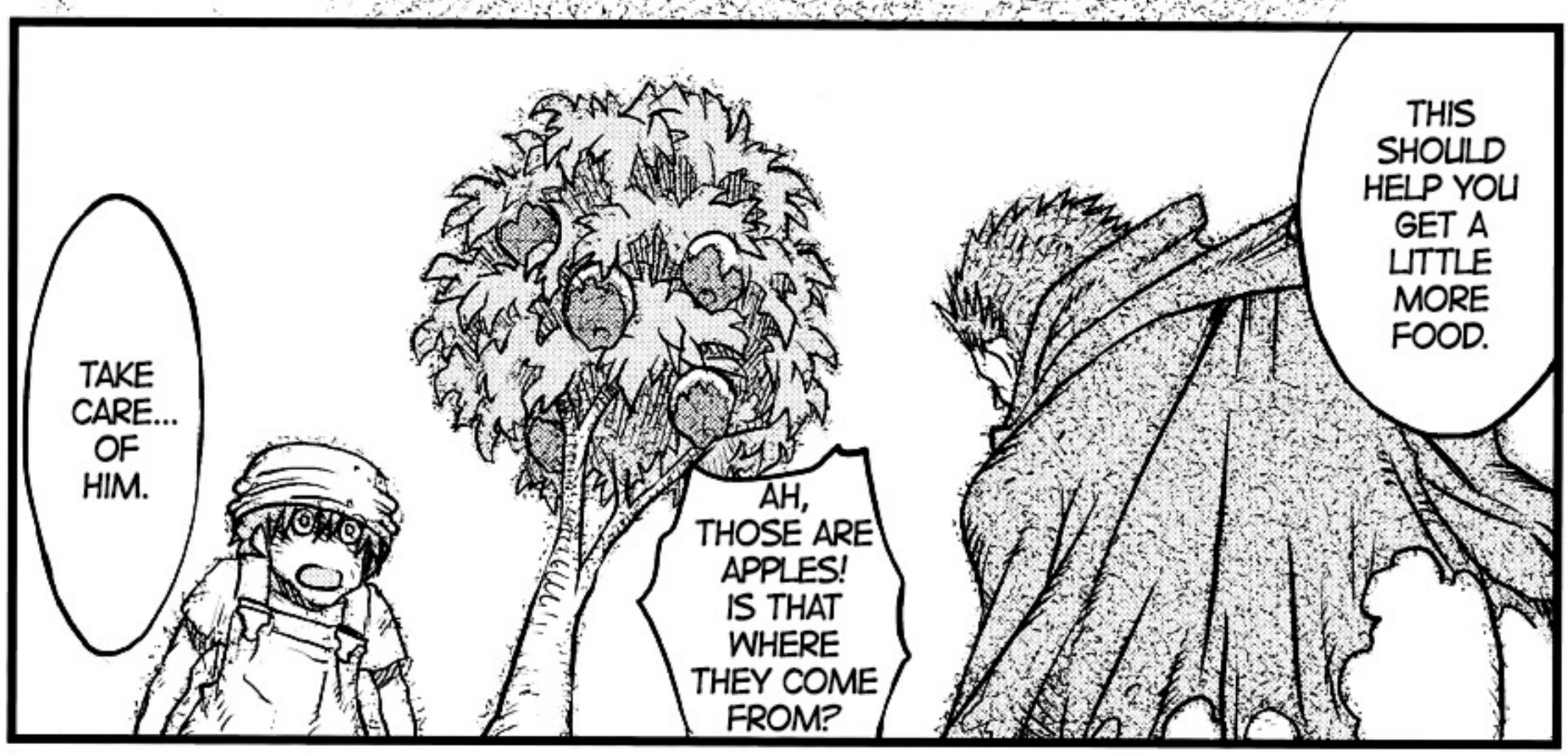
HE'S... CRUCIAL FOR YOU!
YOU MUST... TAKE HIM... SAVE HIM.


YER ONE TO TALK.
WHY WOULD YOU WELCOME TWO PEOPLE WHO WERE SO SUSPICIOUS?
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...
SO, HOW'S THE WOUND?
IT'S NO PROBLEM.
GOOD.
FROM THE LOOKS OF IT, YOU WERE PIERCED THROUGH THE CHEST AT AN ANGLE.
I MAY BE A DOCTOR IN THE FRONTIER, BUT I COULDN'T JUST LET YA DIE.
AND YOU WERE DYIN'.
BECAUSE HIS PLEAS WERE SO DES-PERATE.
...HOW YER WOUND HAD CLOSED UP BEFORE YA GOT HERE OR HOW IT DIDN'T JUST OUTRIGHT KILL YA.
DIDN'T GET TO ASK YER FRIEND...

THAT'S AMAZING!

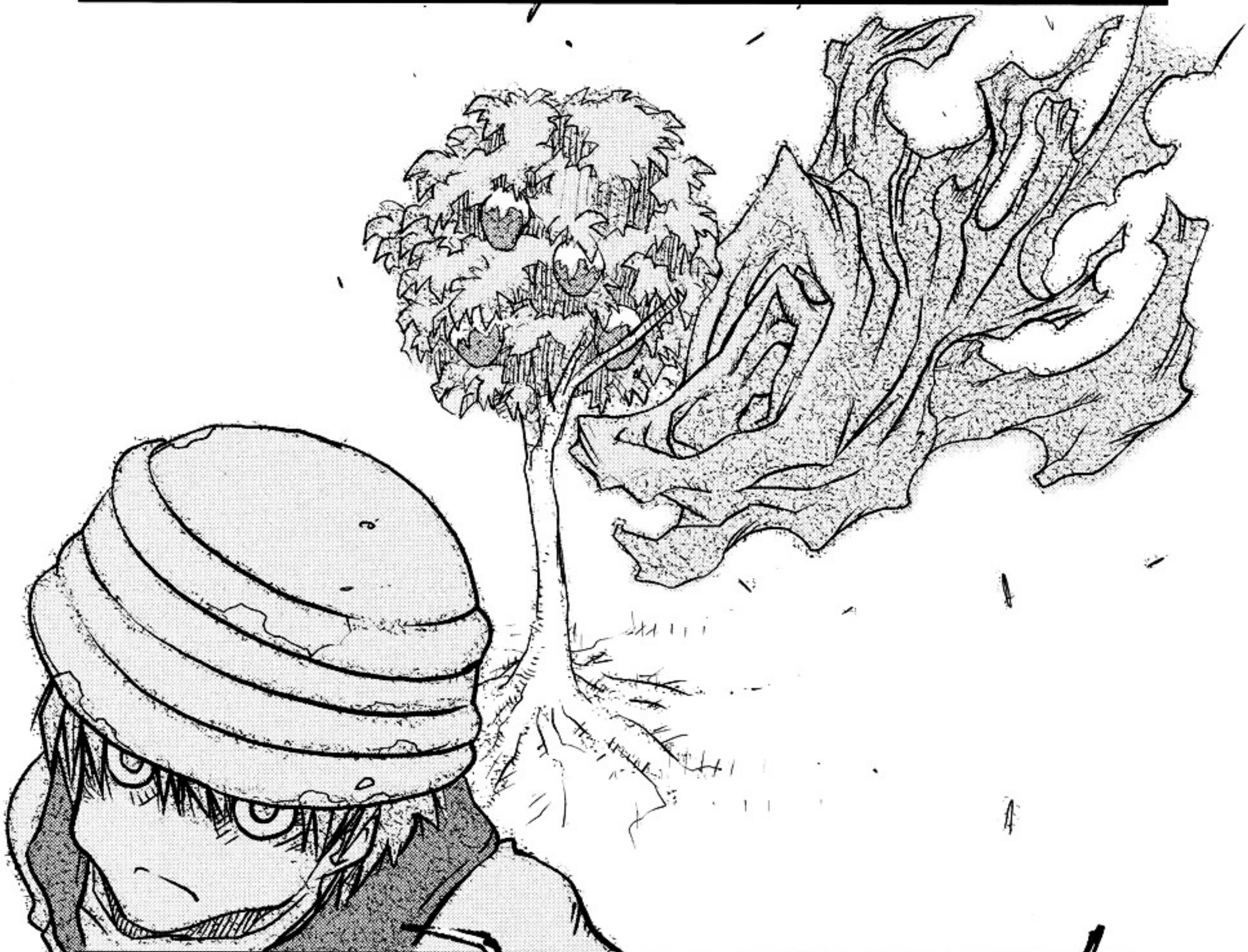
WOW!

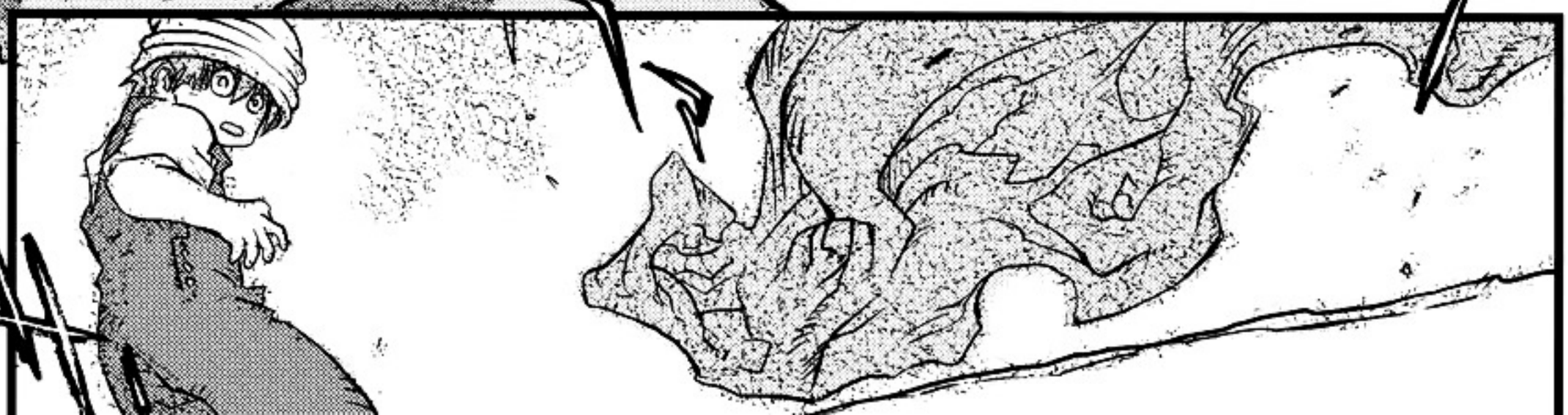
WHAT IS THAT?!



VASH!

VASH!
...IT DOESN'T MATTER.





NOW, GET OUTTA HERE.

YOU'VE DONE MORE THAN ENOUGH ALREADY.

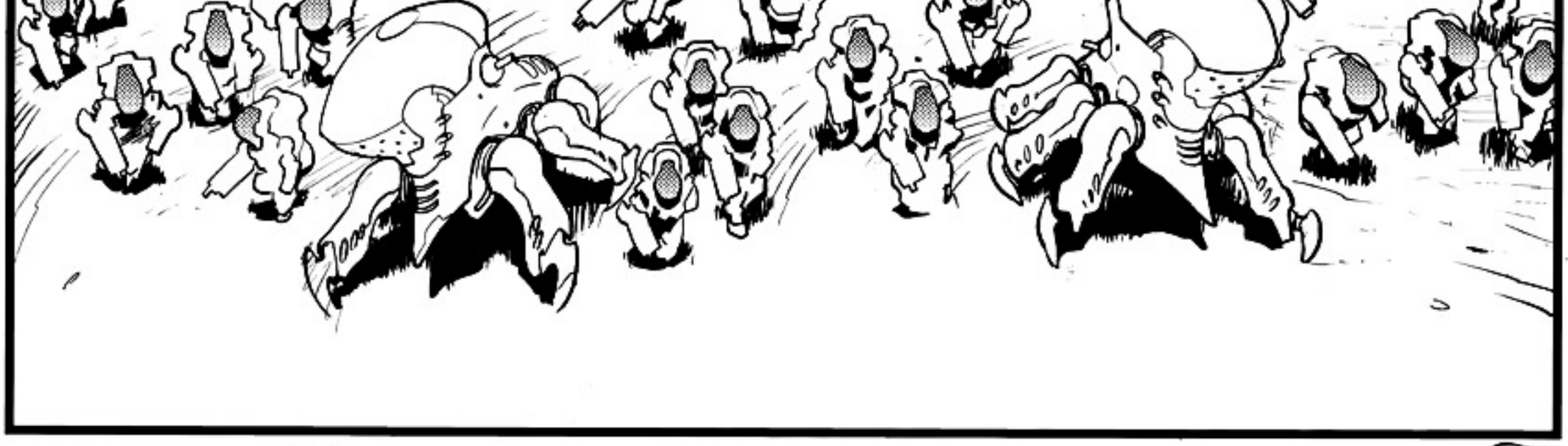
GOT THAT?

GO LIVE A QUIET LIFE SOMEWHERE IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.

THANK YOU.

YEAH.

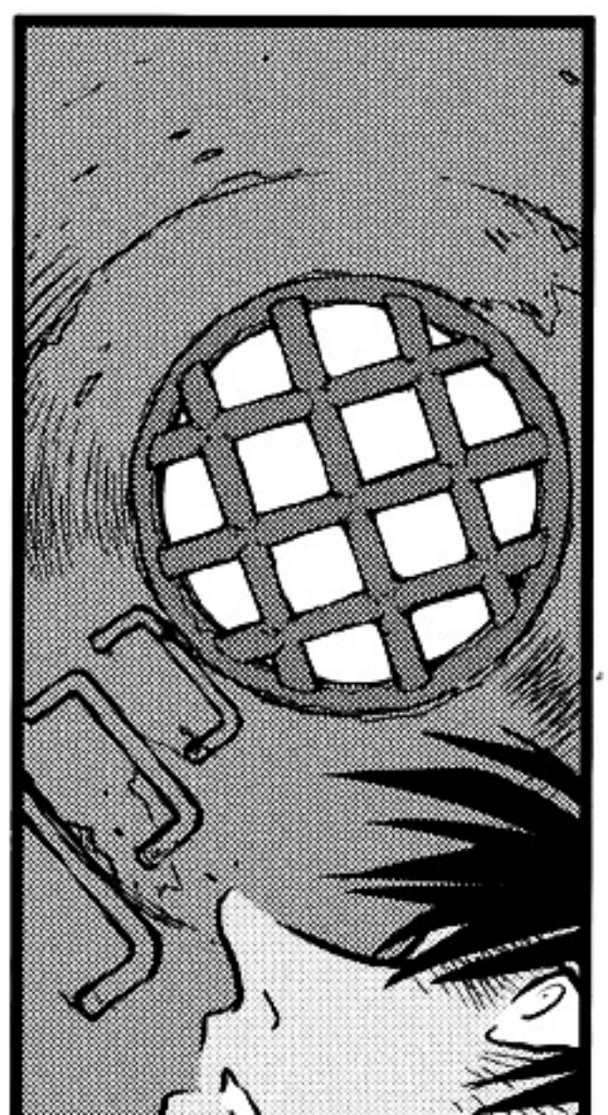
...
...

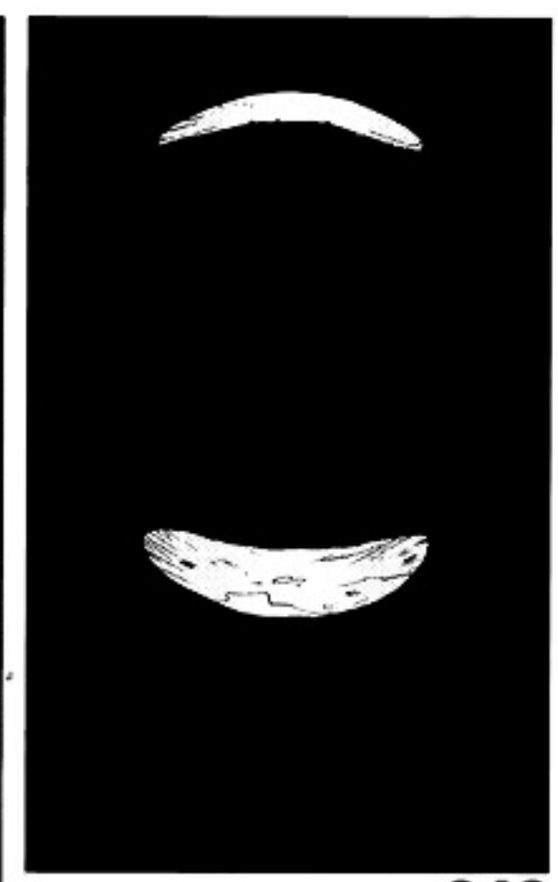


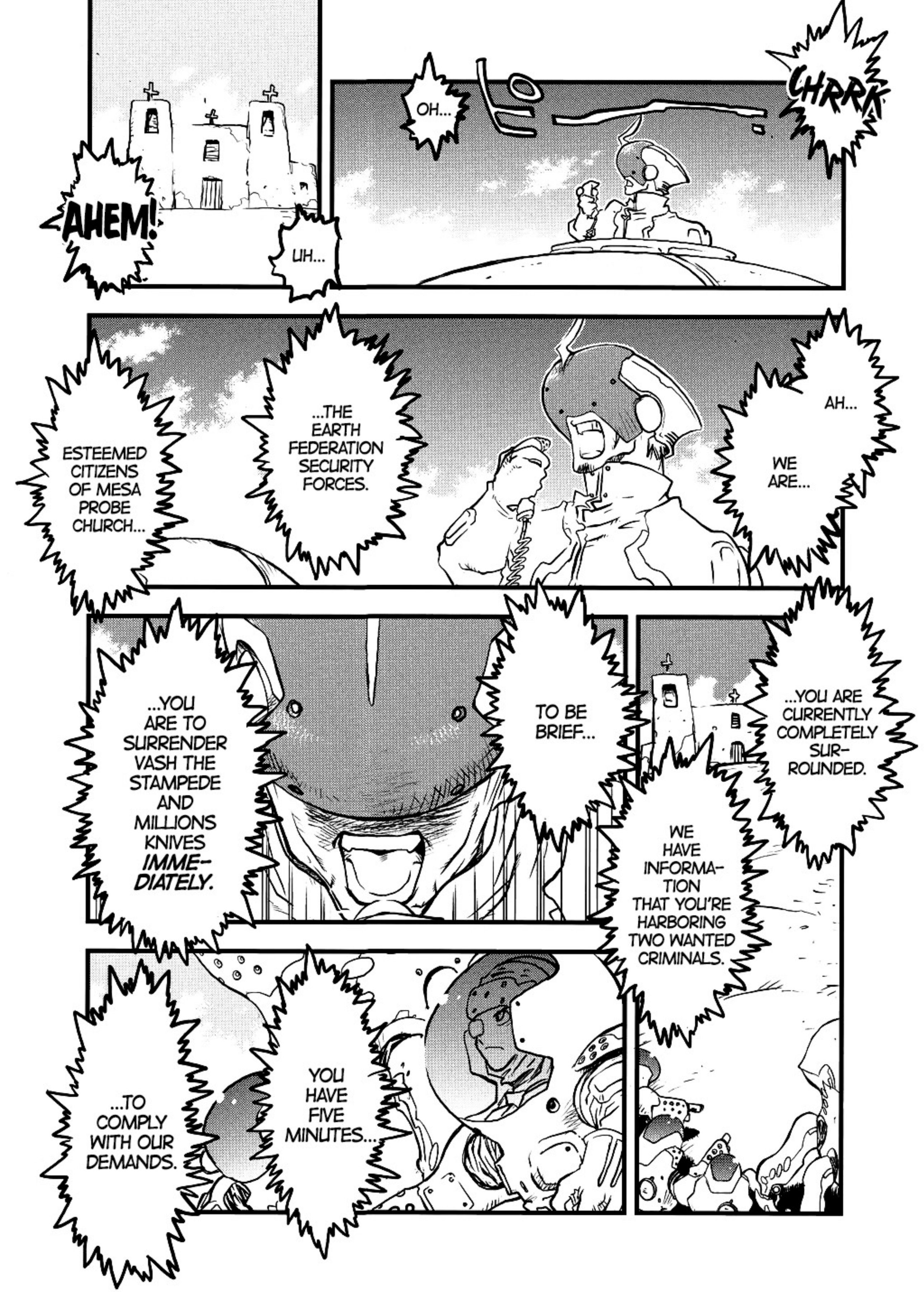
NO MATTER WHAT THEY FIND, THEY CAN'T DO ANYTHIN' IF HE AIN'T HERE.
WE'LL SURRENDER WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, KEEP ACTIN' CLUELESS. IT'LL BUY HIM TIME.
STAY CLOSE, CARLITO.
DAD...

?!
I SHOULD GET GO-

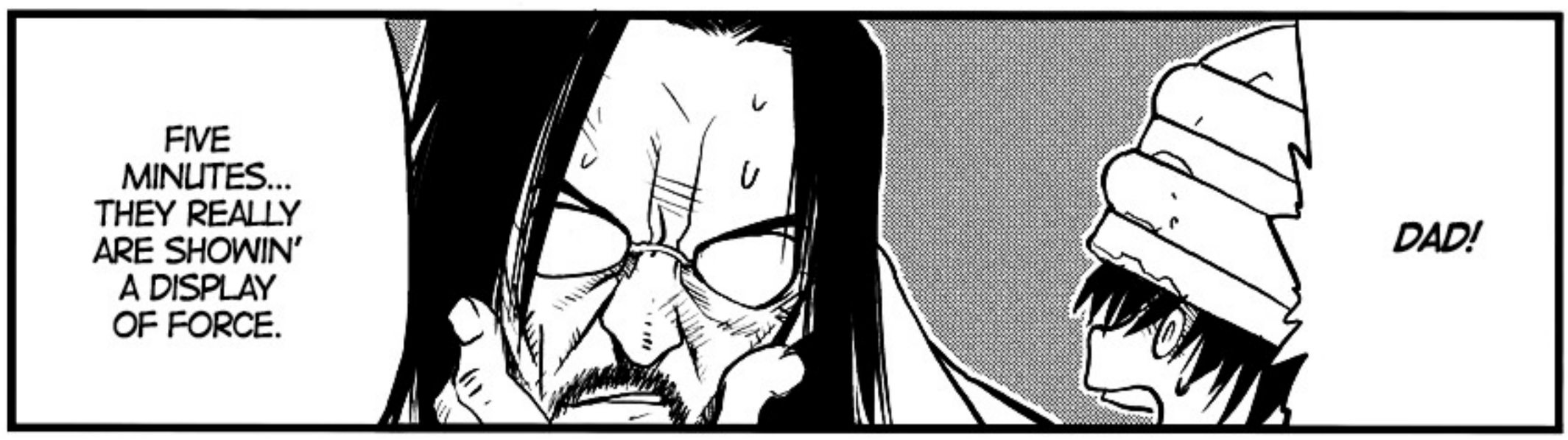
...YOU TWO.
I'M SORRY...



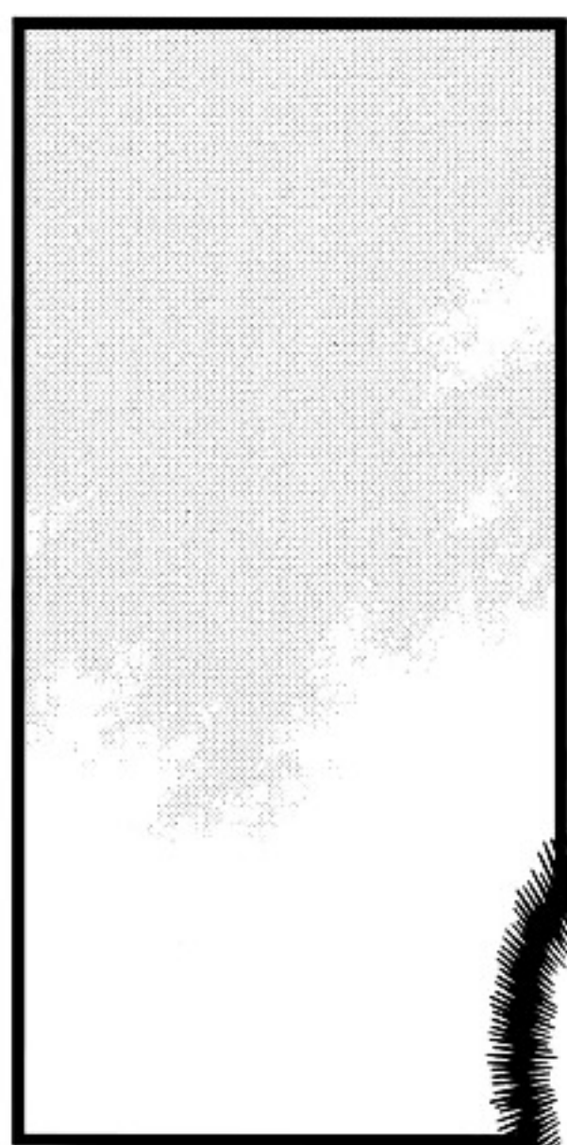



AHEM!
UH...
OH...
CHRRK
ESTEEMED CITIZENS OF MESA PROBE CHURCH...
...THE EARTH FEDERATION SECURITY FORCES.
AH...
WE ARE...
...YOU ARE TO SURRENDER VASH THE STAMPEDE AND MILLIONS KNIVES *IMME-DIATELY.*
TO BE BRIEF...
...YOU ARE CURRENTLY COMPLETELY SUR-ROUNDED.
WE HAVE INFORMA-TION THAT YOU'RE HARBORING TWO WANTED CRIMINALS.
...TO COMPLY WITH OUR DEMANDS.
YOU HAVE FIVE MINUTES...

IF YOU DO NOT...
...WE WILL NOT HESITATE TO USE FORCE!


FIVE MINUTES... THEY REALLY ARE SHOWIN' A DISPLAY OF FORCE.
DAD!

HMPH.
THAT'S WHAT WE THOUGHT...



I COULD BUY AN EXTRA 15 MINUTES BY PRETENDIN' TO HAVE JUST WOKEN UP, BEIN' HUNGOVER AND HAVIN' DIARRHEA.
THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH TO LET HIM GET PRETTY FAR.
GOOD LUCK, VASH!
DAD! DAAAD! YOU OKAY?!

WHAT?!

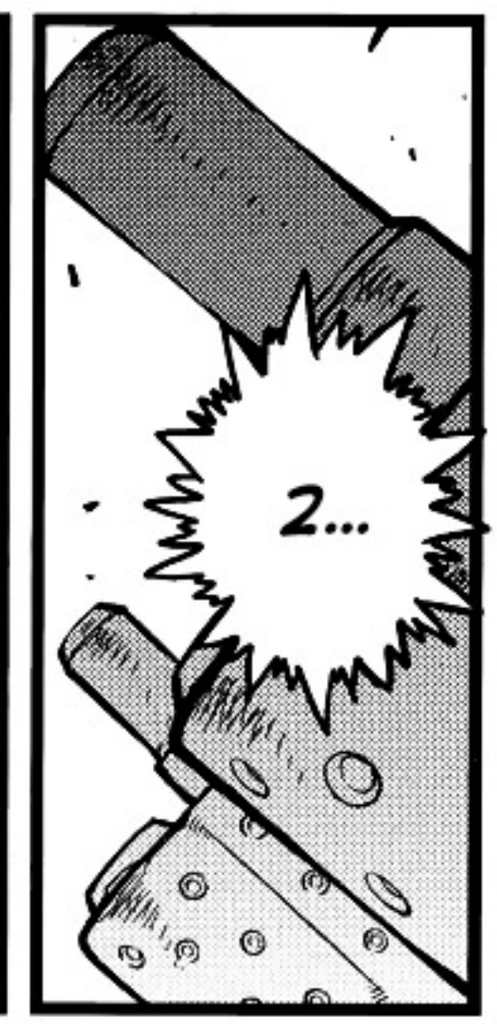
WE'RE GOING IN IMMEDI-ATELY!

YOU LEAVE US NO CHOICE!

4...

5...

CHARGING IN...

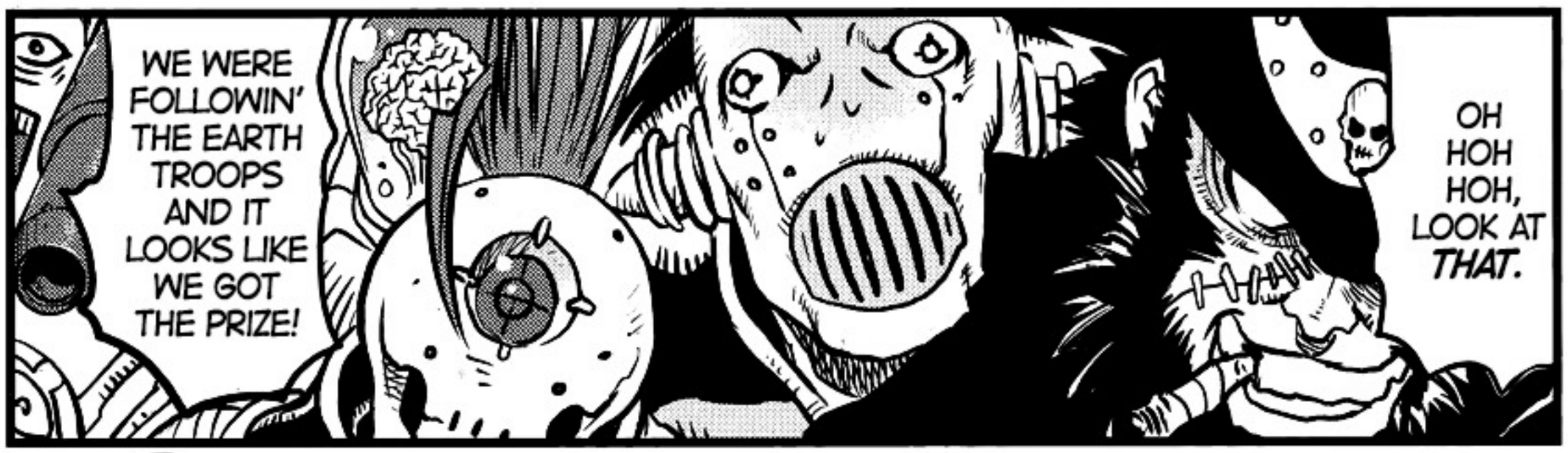


IT CAN'T BE...!
IT'S HIM!
IT'S...
HAIR THAT STANDS ON END!
A CRIM-SON RED COAT!
HEY!
...IS THAT?!
VASH THE STAM-PEDE!
YES! THAT IS MEEE!

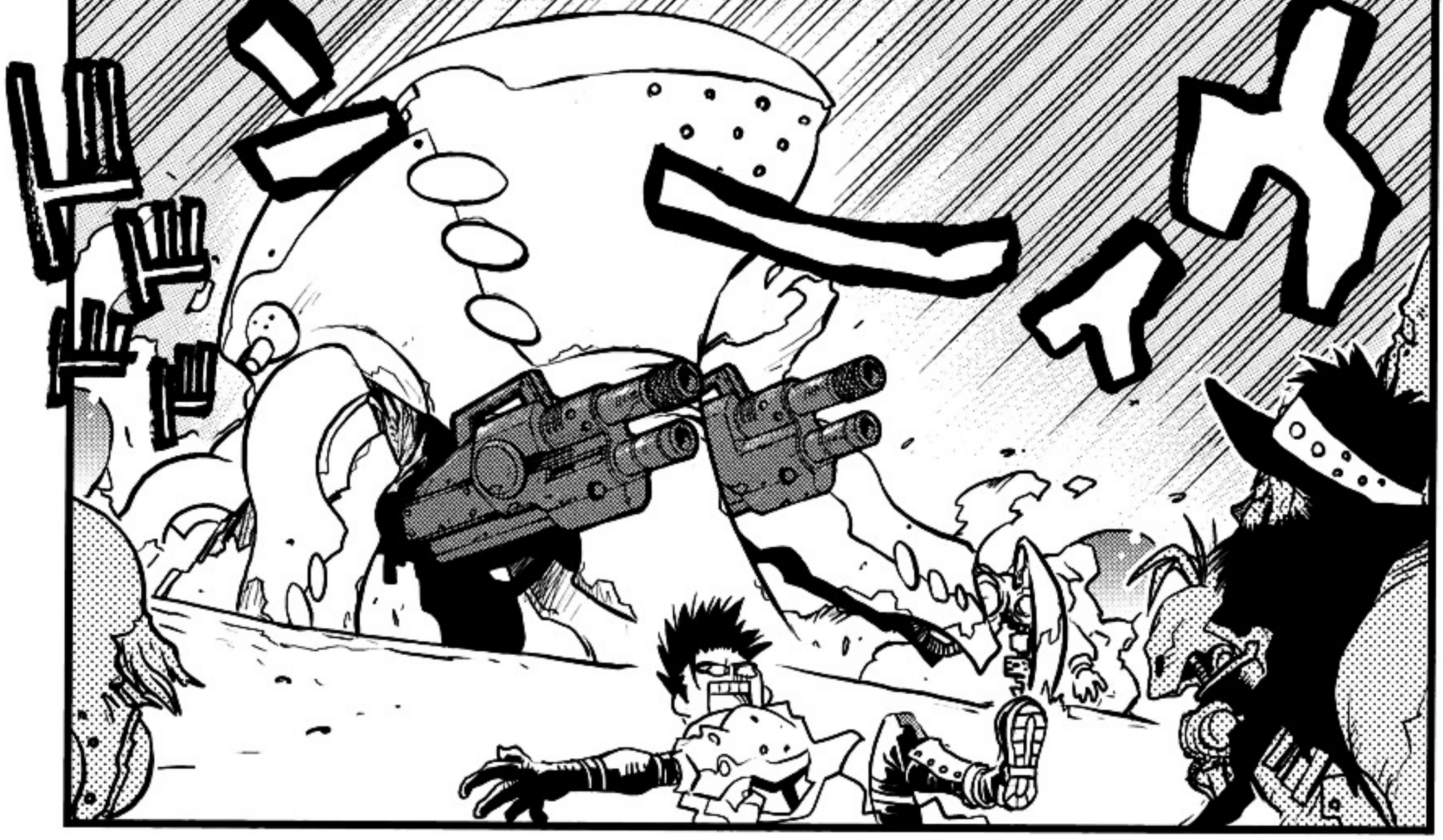
I JUST NEED TO GET RID OF THIS MOB...
THIS WILL JUST BE A ONE TIME THING!
MAYBE GET A WIG, PERHAPS SOME FALSE TEETH, AND A FAKE BEARD AS WELL..
...THEN I'LL LIVE IN DISGUISE FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE.
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT! I'LL JUST BE A NORMAL CITIZEN OF NO MAN'S LAND! NOBODY WILL EVER KNOW!
THE EARTH FORCES HAVE A REPUTATION TO UPHOLD, SO THEY'RE NOT GONNA TELL ANYONE I GOT AWAY.
I'LL BE OPTIMISTIC AND LIVE A HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE!
JUST QUIET, PEACEFUL, RELAXED, AND CAREFREE.
YA IDIOT!
YOU RUINED OUR PLAN!

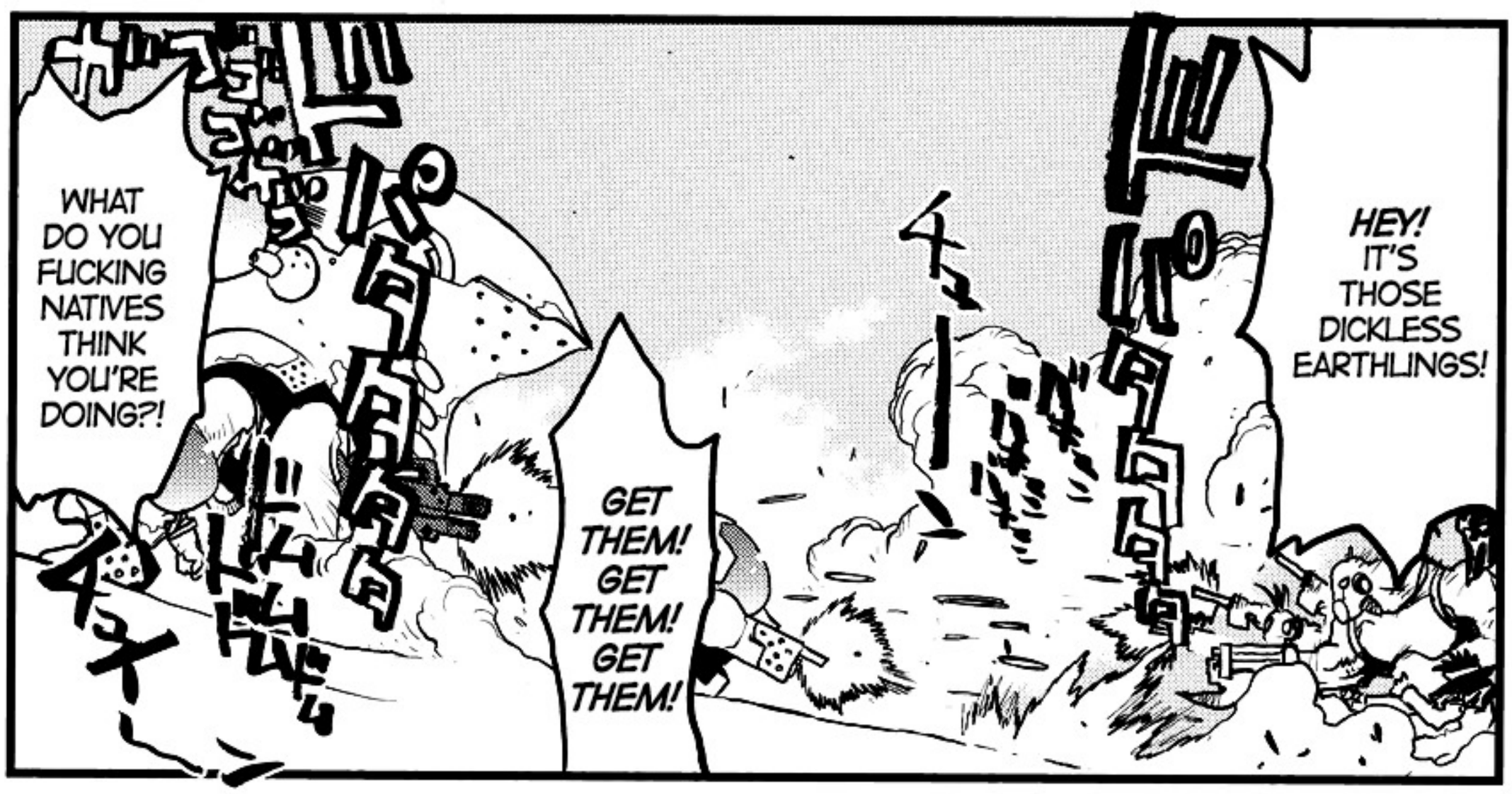
HUH?

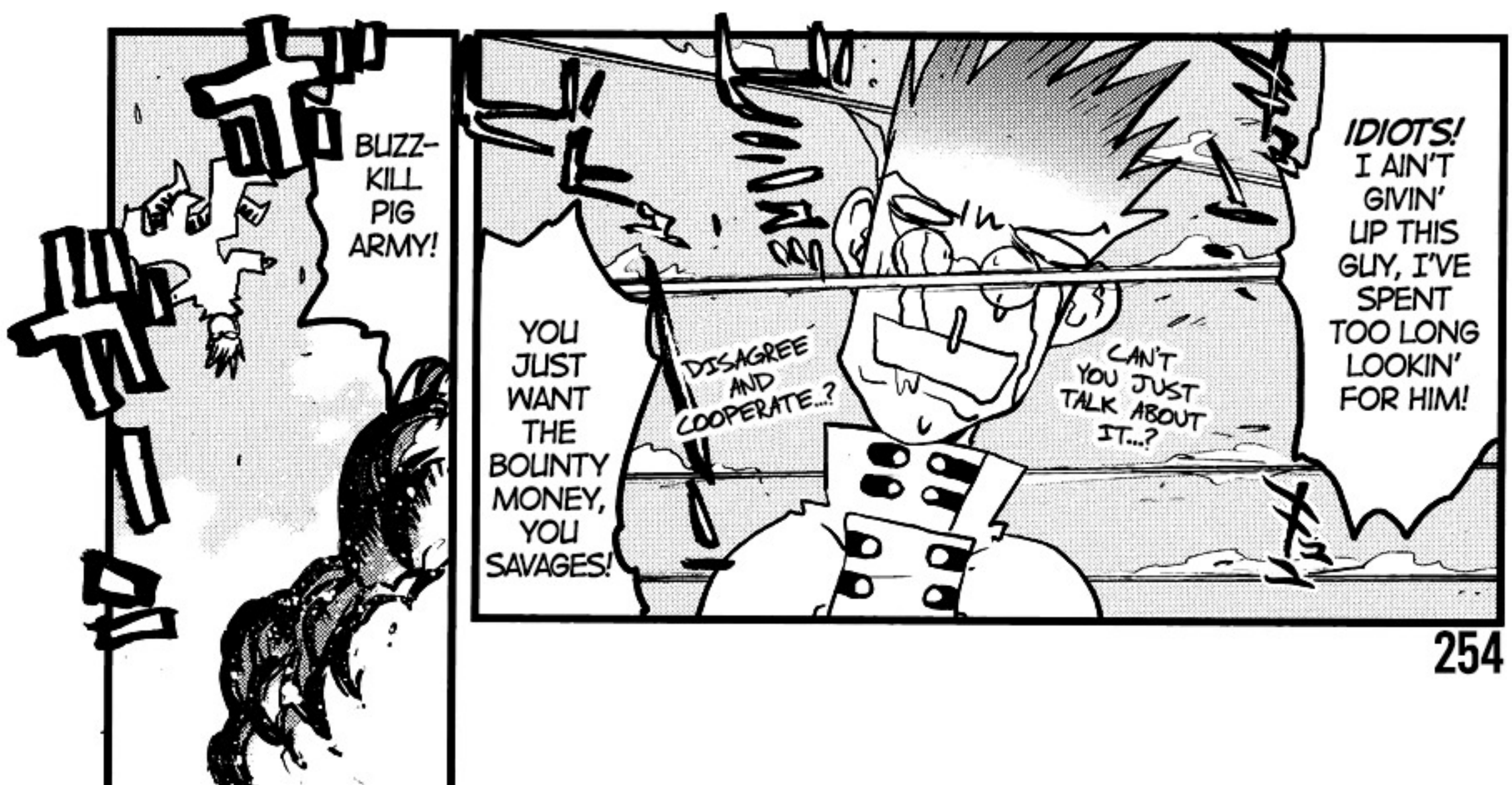
VASH?

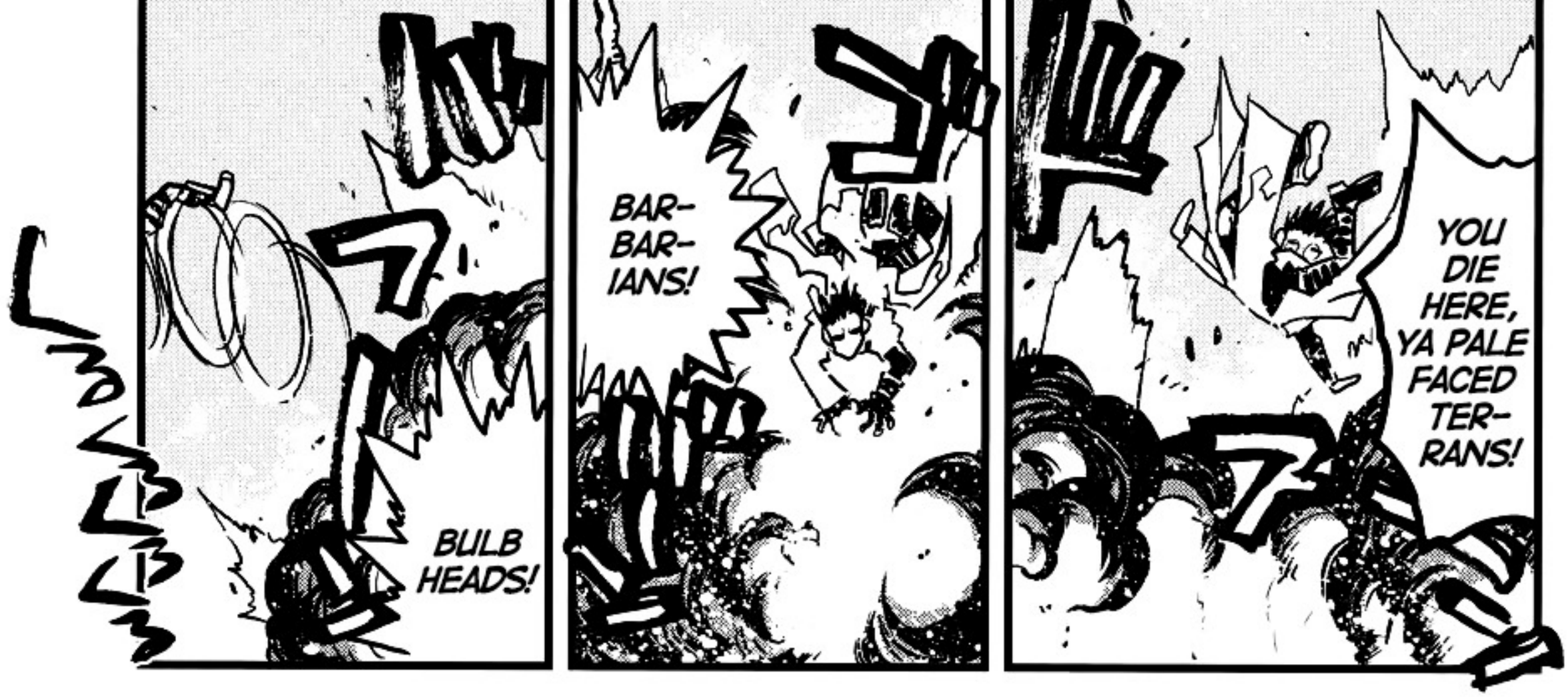

WE WERE FOLLOWIN' THE EARTH TROOPS AND IT LOOKS LIKE WE GOT THE PRIZE!
OH HOH HOH, LOOK AT *THAT.*

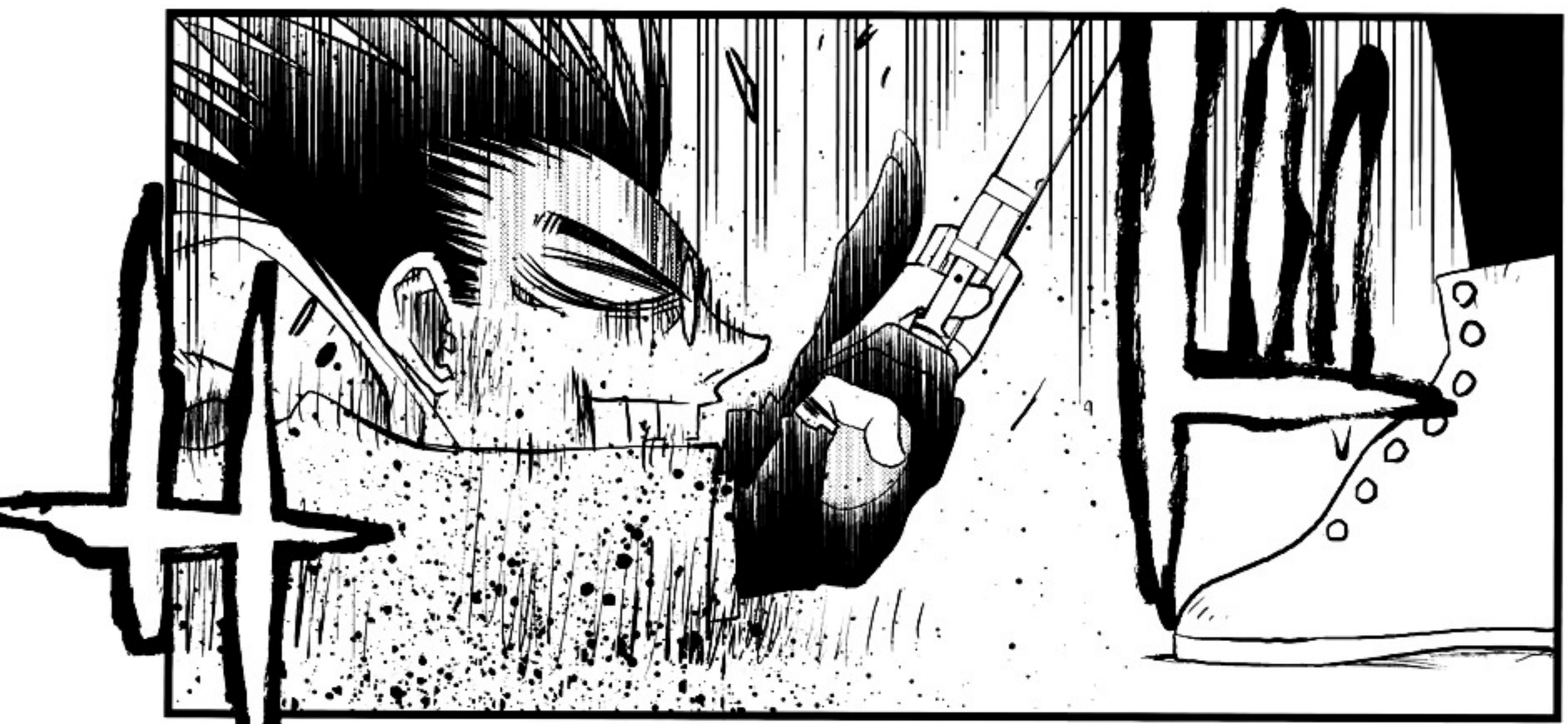
WONDER HOW MUCH I CAN GET FOR HIS HEAD!
GOT THE WIFE AND KIDS WAITIN'!

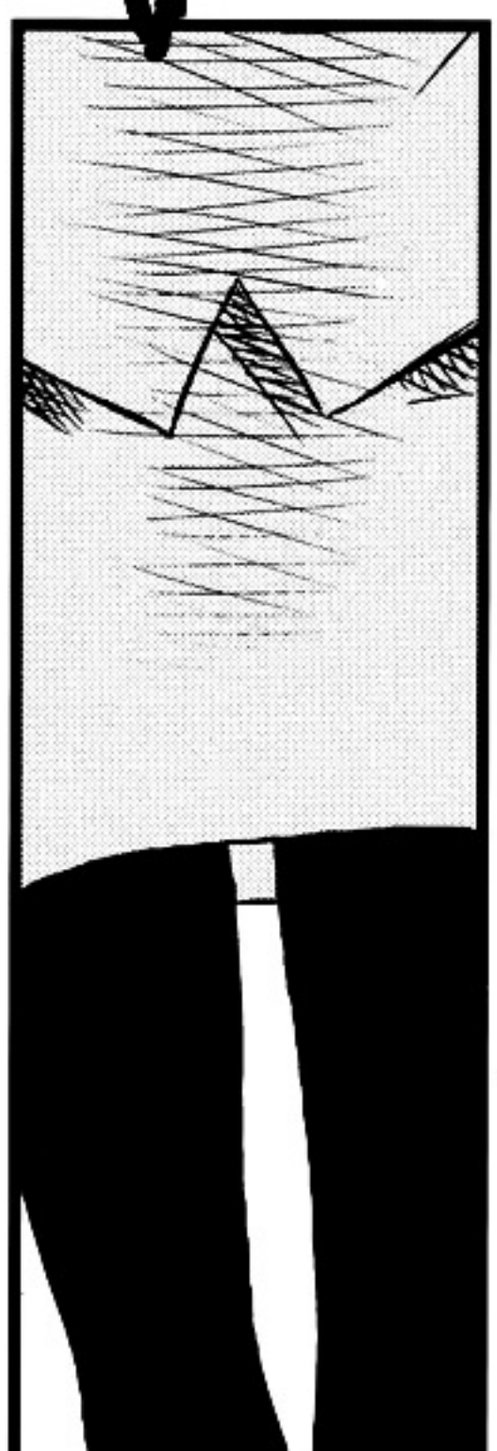


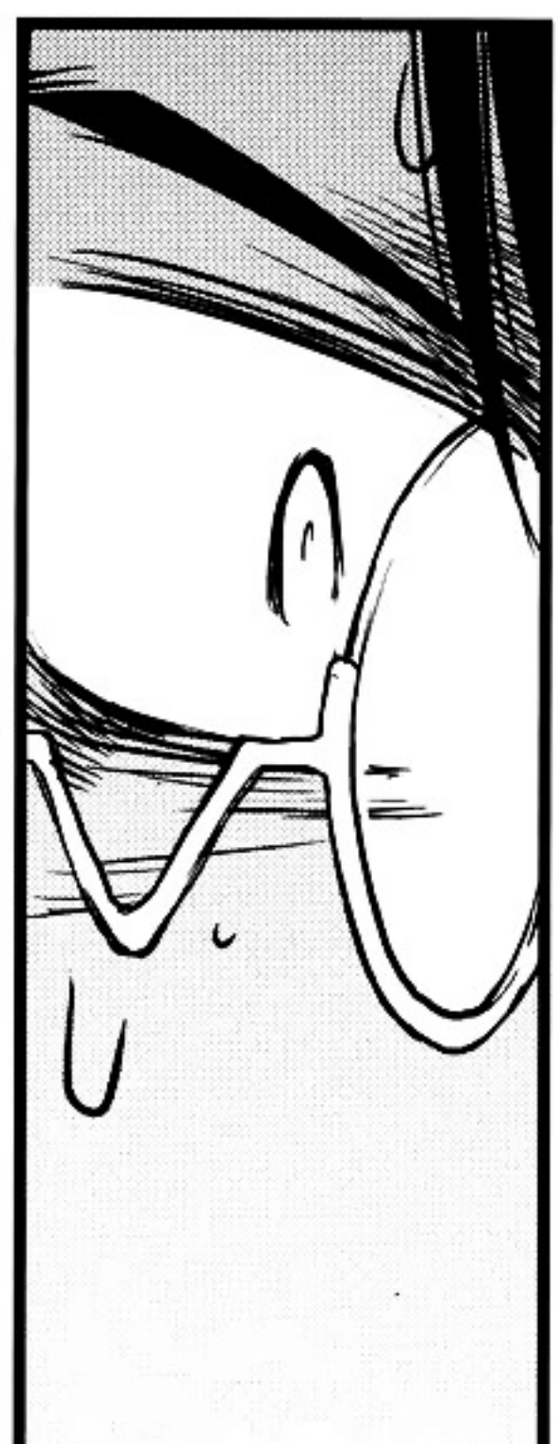

WHAT DO YOU FUCKING NATIVES THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
GET THEM! GET THEM! GET THEM!
HEY! IT'S THOSE DICKLESS EARTHLINGS!


BUZZ-KILL PIG ARMY!
YOU JUST WANT THE BOUNTY MONEY, YOU SAVAGES!
DISAGREE AND COOPERATE...?
CAN'T YOU JUST TALK ABOUT IT...?
IDIOTS! I AIN'T GIVIN' UP THIS GUY, I'VE SPENT TOO LONG LOOKIN' FOR HIM!

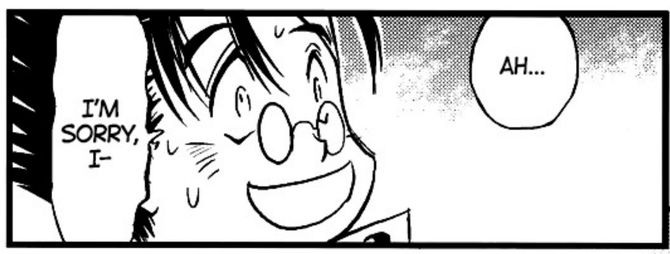

BULB HEADS!
BAR-BAR-IANS!
YOU DIE HERE, YA PALE FACED TER-RANS!

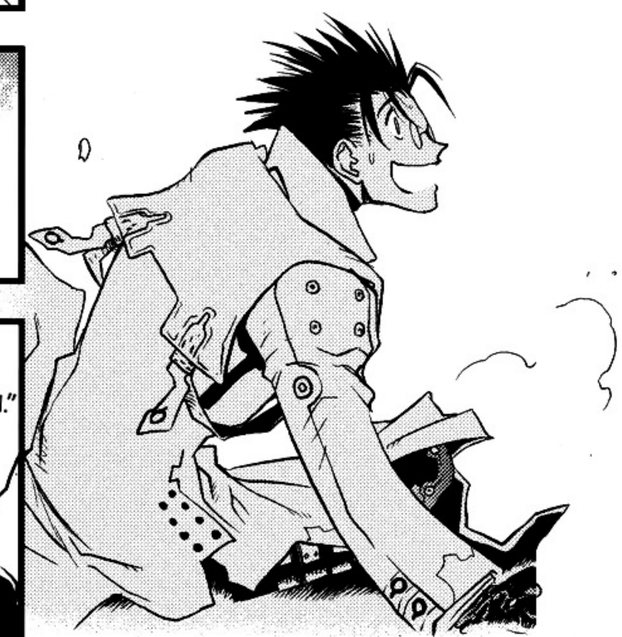






VASH THE STAMPEDE!
...WHAT YOU SAID TO ME BACK IN OCTO-VERN!
DON'T TELL ME YOU'VE ALREADY FORGOT-TEN...


AH...
I'M SORRY, I-



"I WILL RETURN."
YOU WERE LOOKING SO BRAVE, SAYING IT STRAIGHT TO MY FACE, AND THEN RAN OFF ANYWAY.
NO...! IT'S... I MEAN... YOU KNOW..
WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS! WE'RE DONE LOOKING FOR YOU ALL OVER THE PLANET!
...
...
I'M SO ASHAMED...

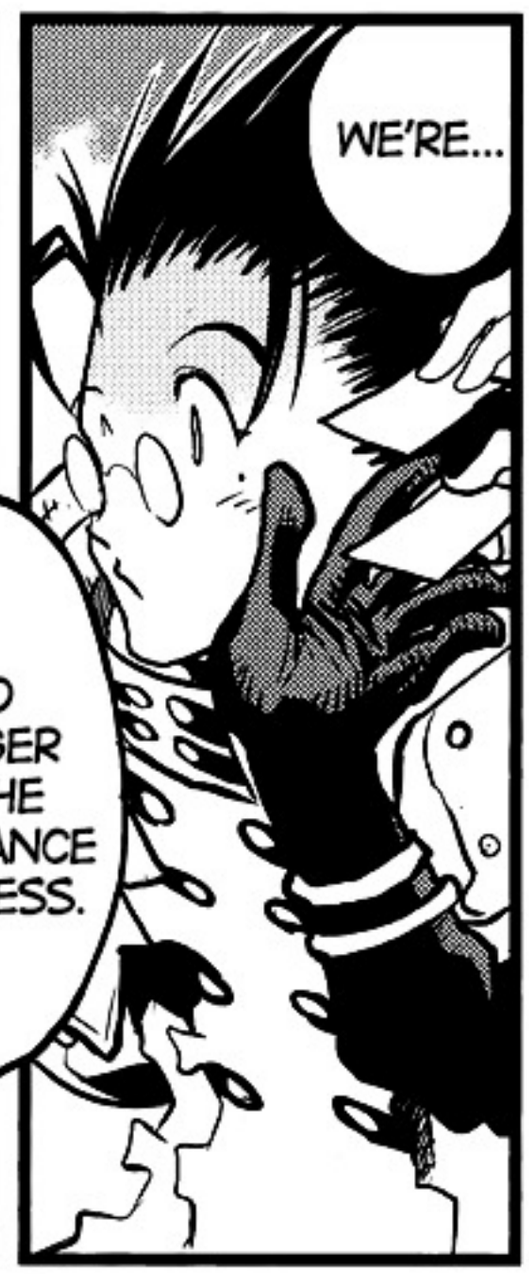
GOD!
YOU'RE SUCH A...!

MERYL!

THAT'S OUT OF THE WAY.
NOW...
THERE!
SHALL WE GET STARTED?
?!
WELL, THEN!
THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE WAITING FOR YOU.
LET'S SHOW THEM YOU'RE ALIVE AND WELL!

WE'RE GOOD TOGETHER, AREN'T WE?

EXPECT NOTHING LESS FROM AN INSURANCE GIRL.



NLBC
...NLBC. (NO MAN'S LAND BROAD-CASTING.)
INVESTIGATIVE REPORTERS...?
NLBC

I SANG A SONG OF LOVE AND PEACE~

IN THE MIDDLE OF SAND AND SMOKE, WEST TO EAST~

ON THIS SUNS SCORCHED DESERT PLANET~

NOW I HAVE $$60 BILLION DOUBLE DOLLARS ON MY HEAD~

BECAUSE I'M A WALKING DISASTER, THAT'S WHAT THE AUTHORITIES SAID~

ONE DAY I WAS THE HUMANOID TYPHOON~

I'M THE WANDERING GUNMAN IN A RED COAT~

I'M VASH THE STAMPEDE~ OH OH OH~

OH, HEAVEN KNOWS, EARTH KNOWS, THE PEOPLE KNOW~

I'M TALKING ABOUT ME!

IN THE WILDERNESS OF THE SANDY DUNES WE SAW HIM, THE RED DEVIL, IN HIS TERRIBLE HABITAT!

TO THE 24-HOUR LIVE EMERGENCY COVERAGE BROADCAST!

WEL-COME!

...AND UNCOVER THE TRUE MAN!

THIS SPECIAL PROGRAM WILL TRACK DOWN THE MYSTERIOUS HUMANOID TYPHOON...

STAY TUNED FOR WARDROBE MALFUNC-TIONS TOO!

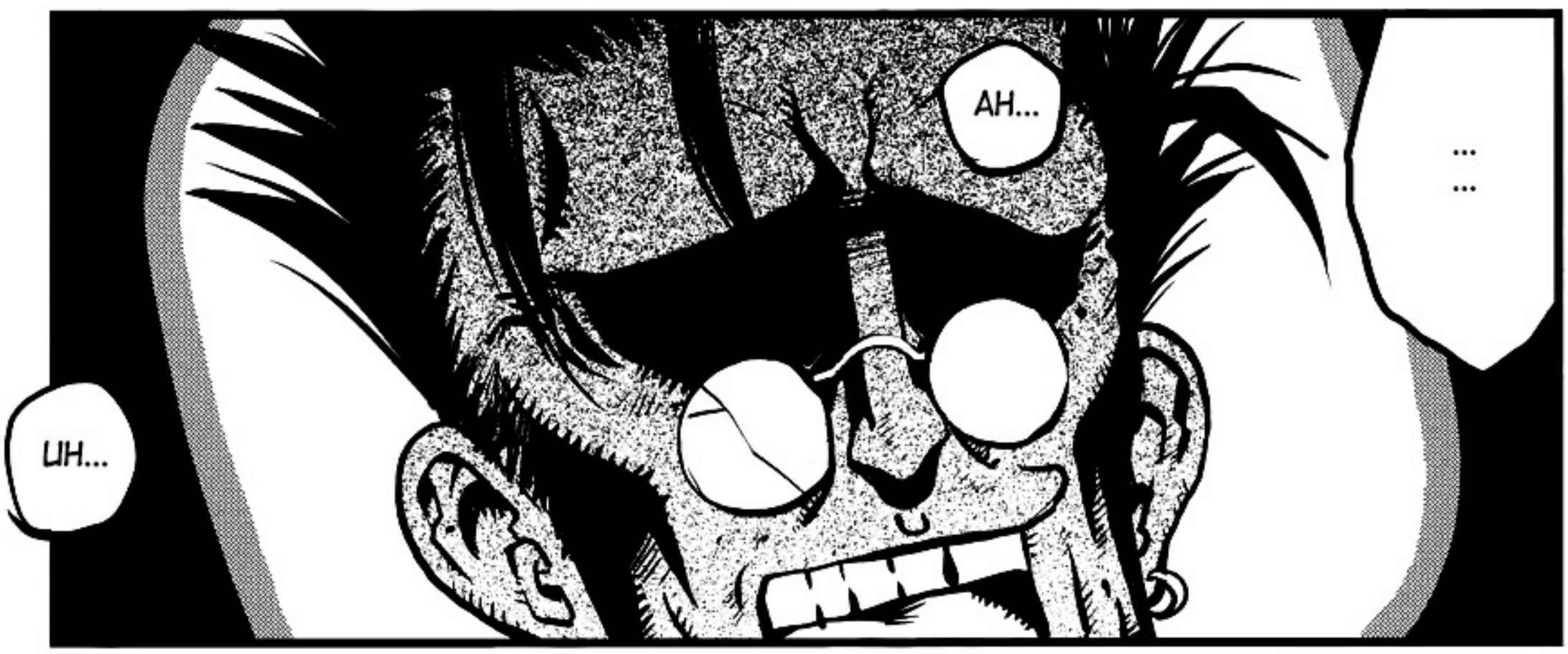
IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS SINCE ANYONE HAS LAST SEEN YOU!

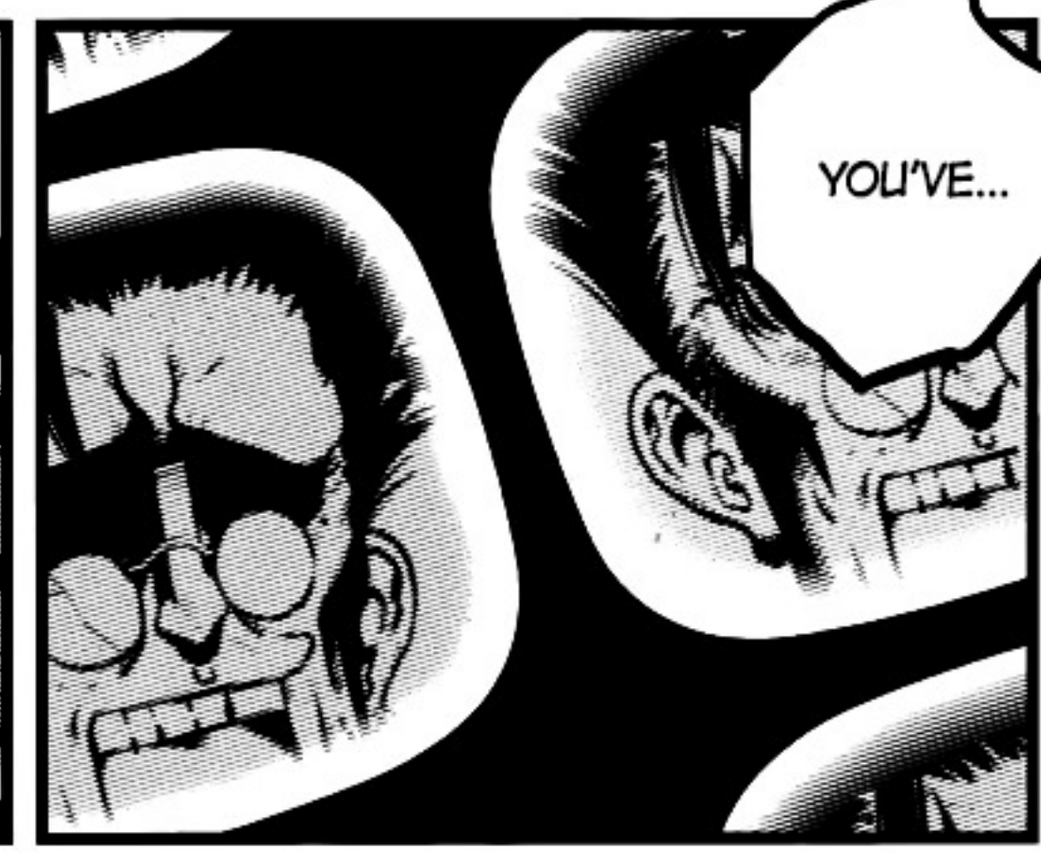
RIGHT!

MR. VASH!

ARE YOU EXCITED? *HUH?!*

THIS IS THE OPENING! IT'S *VERY* IMPOR-TANT!



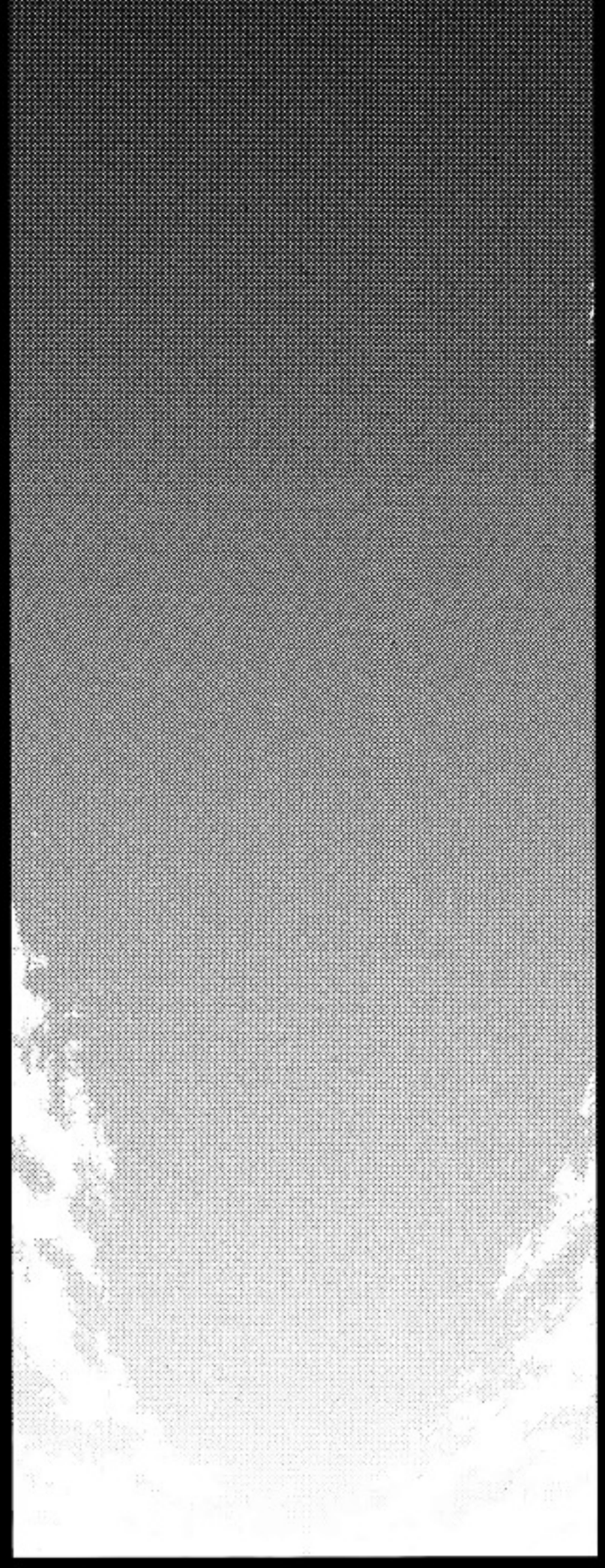


...BE KIDDING...
EEEE

HEH!
HEH! HA HA!
HA HA HA HA!
HA HA HA HA!

FAR FROM HERE...

...IN A DISTANT TIME AND PLACE.



THE SAME SONG OF HUMANITY...

...STILL SANG.

TRIGUN × TRIGUN MAXIMUM

END

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WRITERS:

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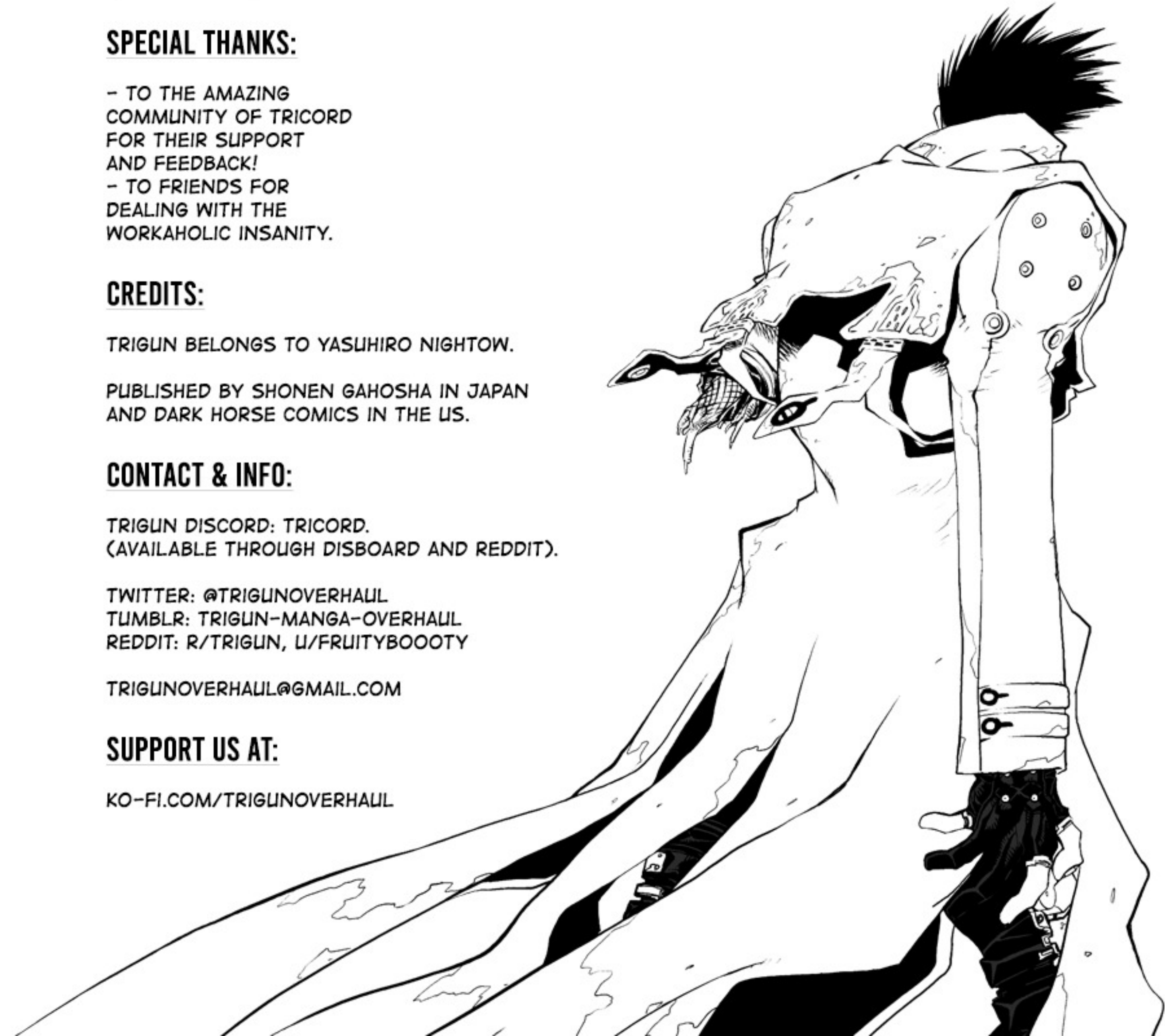

TRIGUN MAXIMUM

YASUHIRO NIGHTOW

DEEP SPACE PLANET FUTURE GUN ACTION!!

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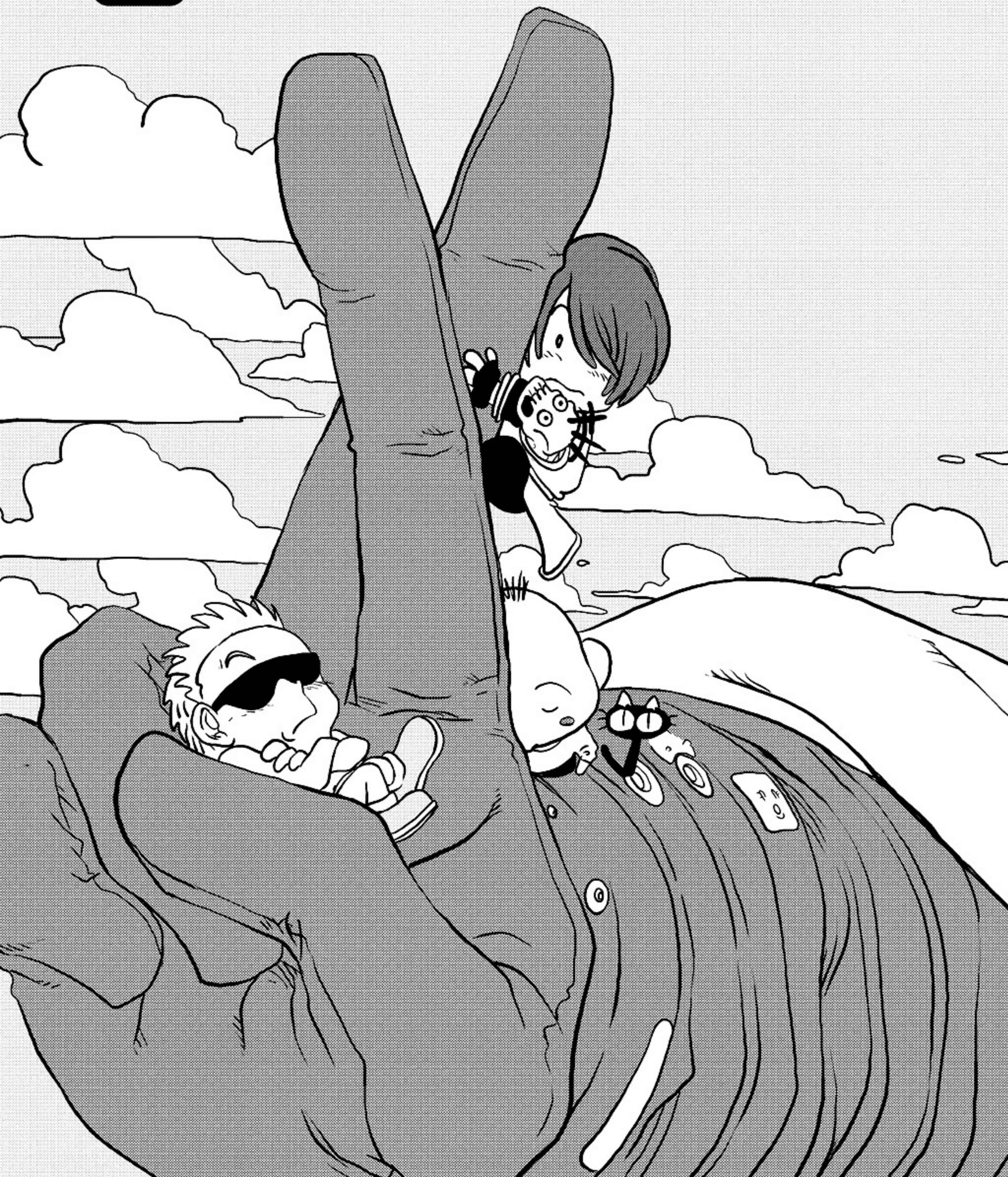

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DEEP SPACE PLANET FUTURE GUN ACTION!!

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